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(25p)

Labour to put tax squeeze on top earners

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

People earning more than £500 a week face big tax increases early in the life of a Labour government to pay for rises in benefits for pensioners and the unemployed, Mr Roy Hattersley, shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, said yesterday.

An emergency programme will be introduced under which the top 5 per cent of salary earners and dividend recipients will face a £3 a week increase in child benefit, an £8 a week increase in pension for a married couple, and an extension of the long-term rate of supplementary benefit to people unemployed for more than a year.

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, claimed last night that Labour's proposals would lead to another brain drain.

Taxes for well over one million people would be put up to at least 70 per cent, Mr Hattersley's proposals were enacted. The implementation of Labour's programme would mean higher taxes for everyone, he alleged.

Mr Hattersley disclosed that the Shadow Cabinet, has embarked on a study to determine how the £3.6 billion given by the Tory government to top earners can be clawed back.

Taxes reduced or removed will not simply be reimposed

and reductions in tax allowances could take preference over increasing marginal rates.

Speaking the day after Dr David Owen made the Social Democratic Party's proposals for tax reform the centrepiece of its general election message, Mr Hattersley confirmed that Labour's proposals would affect individuals, not families, earning more than £27,000 a year.

Mr Hattersley said that the vast majority of the population would not face a heavier tax burden. "Apart from the contribution paid by the high-

est 5 per cent of salary earners and dividend recipients the general level of taxation will remain roughly what it is today."

But Mr Hattersley said in a BBC radio interview: "The richest 5 per cent of wage earners, salary earners and dividend recipients, the only people to have had tax cuts under this government in the last seven years, will lose substantially."

Mr Hattersley said that the top 5 per cent of earners, in which he included himself (the shadow Chancellor receives income from journalism on top of his MP's salary), now paid a total annual tax

bill which was almost £4 billion lower than it was in 1979.

Mr Hattersley made clear that his proposals were early commitments, and that there would be more fundamental changes.

Labour spokesmen last night declined to put figures on the likely tax increases to be faced, although Mr Michael Meacher, chief spokesman on health and social services, estimated that anyone earning £30,000 a year was £80 a week better off now than in 1979.

Mr Hattersley, however, ridiculed the Social Democratic Party's programme which he said could not possibly be implemented. He said: "You cannot have a major shift of resources by asking comparatively poor people, those on £10,000 or a little more, to make a larger contribution to people further down the income scale."

Mr Lawson, interviewed on BBC television last night, said Labour's plans did not add up but it was clear that Labour was committed to putting taxes up.

"Even if you take Mr Hattersley at his face value what he is saying he will do is for everybody over £500 a week and that is well over one million people he will put their taxes up to something like 70 per cent."

Calm urged after Lebanon and Paris deaths

French attaché killed in Beirut

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The gunman used a silenced. No one had heard of the organization which claimed responsibility. But Colonel Christian Goutierre's murder had about it the cold efficiency that has become the hallmark of France's enemies in Lebanon: two bullets in the head of the military attaché as he climbed from his car outside the French Embassy in east Beirut yesterday.

The youth who later telephoned a news agency said it was the work of the "Revenge and Justice Front". Then he added: "Let Chirac know that our next coming blow will be more crippling."

Even as he spoke, more than 1,000 French paratroopers in the United Nations force in southern Lebanon, still under rocket and machine-gun attack, prepared to leave their positions around the Shia Muslim village of Marrah for less vulnerable outposts near the Israeli border.

Colonel Goutierre, a bespectacled man in his early 60s who had been in Lebanon for almost two years, probably never saw his assassin as he pulled up on the edge of his



France grieves: M Chirac, right, and M Charles Pasqua, the Interior Minister, at the funeral yesterday of a policeman who was killed by the Champs Elysees bomb last Sunday.

Chirac points to links in terror attacks

● The French Government is convinced it is dealing not with one but with several terrorist groups all operating under one name and using the same type of bombs
● The French military attaché in Beirut was shot in the head and killed as he climbed from his car outside the French Embassy in east Beirut
● The climate in Paris has changed to one of fear and fury after the latest and most deadly bombing attack claimed five lives at the Tati clothes store

From Diana Gaddes, Paris

The assassination of the French military attaché in Beirut, following the hard on Wednesday's bomb attack in Paris, has convinced the Government that it is not dealing with one, but several, terrorist groups with possibly quite different aims, all operating under one name and using the same bombs.

Until now, the Government has resisted the idea of a connection between the attacks on French forces and personnel in Lebanon and the bombings in Paris. But M Denis Baudouin, the Prime Minister's spokesman, said yesterday that it now looked as if there was "an interpenetration of several groups, pursuing several aims", at least one of which was to drive the French from Lebanon.

In an oration at the funeral yesterday of a policeman, aged 24, who died trying to defuse a bomb at the Pub Renault on the Champs-Elysees last week, M Jacques Chirac, the Prime Minister, called for "calm, dignity and courage", in the face of the latest attacks.

President Mitterrand, who is on a three-day official visit to Indonesia, adopted the same kind of determined tone when he said in a televised message on Wednesday night that France would continue to "fight the terrorists without mercy", and called on the French people "to grit their teeth" and get on with their normal daily lives, as he had done.

The two men believed to have been responsible for

throwing the bomb at the Tati clothing store, near Montparnasse, on Wednesday, have been identified by police after being recognized in photographs by eyewitnesses.

Five people died and 53 were injured in the attack, including 18 seriously. A five-year-old child is among those seriously injured.

One of the two men has been named as Emile Ibrahim Abdullah, a brother of Georges Ibrahim Abdullah, the imprisoned leader of the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary

Factions. The police remain convinced that another of Georges Ibrahim's brothers, Robert, was responsible for the last week's attack at a cafeteria at La Defense, despite his dramatic reappearance at a press conference in Tripoli, northern Lebanon, on Wednesday.

The second man believed to have been involved in the Tati shop attack has been named as Salim el-Khoury, a member of the Far and the Syrian-backed Palestine Popular Liberation Front of Georges Habbache.

● KABBAYAT: Emile Abdullah said in this north Lebanon village that he was not involved in attacks in the French capital (Reuter reports).

Summit still on, Soviet foreign minister says

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, arrived in Washington yesterday for two days of crucial talks and said a US-Soviet summit was still possible, but everything depended on the Reagan Administration.

On the eve of his meeting with Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, he said after arriving from New York: "We are ready. The question is already 50 per cent settled."

He said he was prepared to discuss the continued detention in Moscow of Mr Nicholas Daniloff, the American journalist, with Mr Shultz, who has said he will make this the top item on the agenda. Mr Shevardnadze thought that a solution could be found to this and to the row over the US expulsion of Soviet diplomats from New York.

"Such incidents have happened before and may happen in the future. This is undesirable, but unfortunately it does happen. On such occasions it is important that government leaders act wisely and with foresight, and that such incidents do not impede normal relations between states."

Mr Shevardnadze con-

Brake on rise in jobless

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Unemployment rose only slightly last month, and there are signs of a break in the strong upward trend which set in at the end of last year.

The jobsless total rose to 3,280,106 last month, an increase of 512. However, this does not include 113,828 summer school leavers, who did not become eligible for benefit until this month.

The seasonally adjusted adult total, regarded as the best guide to unemployment, rose by 400, the smallest increase for nine months. The total of 3,223,600 represented a new high but the Government took heart from the size of the increase.

A change in unemployment of this size is regarded by officials as virtually no change.

Thus, the Secretary of State for Employment, Lord Young of Grafton, said: "The number of people unemployed last month remained unchanged and this, following the small seasonally adjusted rise in July, gives some encouragement for the future."

Department of Employment officials estimate that the Community Programme and the nationwide Restart programme. These, in combination, may have cut unemployment by about 5,000 last month.

A leading City economist, Mr Giles Kesting of Credit Suisse First Boston, predicted in a report published yesterday that unemployment could fall by nearly half a million over the next 18 months.

But the Shadow Employment Minister, Mr John Evans, said: "Today's appalling figures are the ninth consecutive record. They are an indictment of this Government."

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Exclusive next week

How Militant went after a Labour MP



● Starting on Monday, The Times carries the first authentic account of how the Militant Tendency tried to oust Robert Kilroy-Silk from his safe Labour constituency. ● It is Kilroy-Silk's own, intimate diary of the plotting, the threats and the patronage that gave Militant the run of Merseyside politics

... and today The ratings battle that will turn Kilroy-Silk into a television star

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Portfolio Gold

● Four readers shared yesterday's £8,000 prize in The Times Portfolio Gold competition, double the usual amount as there was no winner on Wednesday. Details, page 3.
● There is another £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list, page 27; rules and how to play, information service, page 20.

London list

The first of the lists of degrees awarded by London University is published today page 12

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Sterling's fall raises rates fears

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The pound fell sharply yesterday, prompting City fears of a rise in base rates.

Sterling fell against most currencies, including the weak dollar, because of uncertainties over Britain's economic prospects and oil prices.

The sterling index fell from 70.3 to 69.4 - below the previous record reached during the sterling crisis of early 1985, when the Government pushed up interest rates by 4 percentage points.

Some City analysts fear a rise in rates to protect sterling. Money market interest rates rose by around a quarter of a point yesterday, and gilt-edged stocks fell by up to £2.

The pound's weakness was pronounced against the strong German mark. It fell six pence to just below DM2.93 and 40 points to \$1.4715 against a weak dollar.

But the mark's rise pushed the dollar down four pence to DM1.99. It is the first time since January 1981 that it has been below the DM2 level.

Shares did not join in the general gloom yesterday: the FT 30-share index rose 4.4 points to 1,279.6, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up three points at 1,773 in early New York trading.

The financial markets in New York are highly nervous and this is spilling over in particular to the gilt-edged market in London.

Today on Wall Street the so-called "Triple Witching Hour" occurs when the simultaneous expiry of index futures and options can have a big impact on the stock market.

Student Tories warned

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mr Norman Tebbit has let it be known that he is prepared to wind up the Federation of Conservative Students unless it stops rocking the boat and works within the Tory political tradition.

The Conservative Party chairman delivered his warning at a meeting with Mr John Bercow, chairman of the 14,000-member organization, which is based at Central Office.

Mr Tebbit's indication came in the wake of last month's damaging dispute over claims in the federation's magazine, *New Agenda*, that Lord Stockton was guilty of war crimes, which led to Mr Tebbit taking legal action against the magazine's editor, Mr Harry Fluhbs.

Mr Bercow backed the party chairman's tough line only to be accused of "selling out" by the ultra-right libertarians who dominate the federation's national committee.

His meeting with Mr Tebbit came just before he was censured by 16 votes to one by the committee for his robust defence of the steps taken against Mr Fluhbs by the party hierarchy.

Anticipating the vote of censure, Mr Bercow offered to resign his post. Mr Tebbit refused to accept it, saying he should stay on and try to persuade his members to work for the good of the party.

But the extreme libertarians, often hard to distinguish from anarchists, led by Mr Fluhbs and Mr Steve Nicholson, a federation vice-chairman, remain determined to oust Mr Bercow.

Rau and East Germans in deal on refugees

Bonn - Herr Johannes Rau, the Social Democratic Party (SPD) candidate who will run against Chancellor Helmut Kohl in the West German federal election next January, shook the Government yesterday by announcing that he had secured an East German promise to stop the flood of Third World asylum-seekers

into West Berlin from October 1 (Our Correspondent writes).

Herr Rau said the East Germans had told his emissary, Herr Egon Bahr, that from then only persons with valid visas for travel to West Germany would be allowed transit from East Germany or East Berlin to the West.

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Gorbachov is firm over Daniloff case

Moscow (Reuters) - Mr Gorbachov said yesterday that the Soviet Union would not let itself be provoked by reaction to the case of Mr Nicholas Daniloff, the US reporter, whom Moscow has accused of spying.

The Soviet leader, speaking in the southern Russian town of Krasnodar, said the Daniloff affair had been exploited

to sow hatred against Moscow and to damage the Soviet image.

It was his first public comment on the case since Mr Daniloff was seized by the KGB. Describing the reporter as "a spy who has been caught red-handed," Mr Gorbachov said: "They want to call this a run-of-the-mill business, espionage."

"But nevertheless, in comparison with the whole of international policy and relations - this whole complicated business - this is, of course, a common event."

"But they have turned it around in such a way as to damage again and sow doubts about the Soviet Union's policy, to damage its image, the image which people, especially in America, were beginning to put together - and simply to reap a harvest of hatred against us. They will not provoke us."

Washington insisted its order was not related to the

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Star's funeral

The funeral of Pat Phoenix, the former Coronation Street actress, will be held next Tuesday at the Church of The Holy Name, Oxford Road, Manchester, to be followed by a private ceremony attended only by her family.

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Inquest praise for two stewardess heroines

By David Sapped

Two stewardesses paid with their lives by staying behind to help passengers escape from the blazing Boeing 737 during last summer's Manchester Airport disaster.

The inquest on the 55 victims of the tragedy was held yesterday at the Manchester City Hall, when the two stewardesses, Misses Jane and Sharon Ford, aged 23, could have escaped when the British Airways jet was evacuated.

Instead, they stayed to assist people trapped by smoke and flames in the rear of the plane.

"They were above all, could have moved quickly forward and evacuated safely from the aircraft but they remained in the rear doing what they could for passengers and, unfortunately, perished."

"Their action must not be forgotten," he said.

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TT 19/8

Stewardesses died in battle to save trapped passengers on blaze jet

By Peter Davenport

The two stewardesses who died in the blazing British Airways Boeing 737 in the last summer gave their lives attempting to save passengers, the inquest on the 55 victims was told yesterday.

They could have escaped the flames by joining the evacuation of the aircraft but Miss Jacqueline Urbanski, aged 27, and Miss Sharon Ford, aged 23, stayed behind to help passengers trapped at the back of the smoke-filled cabin.

The inquest had heard little of the fate of the two rear stewardesses in nine days of evidence, but yesterday Det Supt David James, who carried out the detailed investigation of the events on board flight KT328, explained how they died.

They had managed to open a rear door and deploy escape chutes, but the rear of the aircraft was engulfed in smoke and flames so quickly it could not be used.

"The two stewardesses were seen attempting to calm the whole desperate situation. They, above all others, could have moved quickly forward and evacuated safely from the

aircraft, but they remained in the rear doing what they could for passengers and unfortunately perished.

"Their action must not be forgotten."

Mr James said that their actions had been as commendable and professional as those displayed by their colleagues who survived, Miss Joanna Toff and Mr Arthur Bradbury, the purser, whose actions have already been praised by Mr Robert Gorodkin, the coroner.

Mr James also disclosed that the identities of the men who knew that valves controlling supplies to airport water hydrants nearest the burning plane had been turned off, were known but the coroner had seen no purpose in calling them to give evidence.

The inquest was also told yesterday that the provision of old fashioned wind socks on airfields would help pilots in assessing accurately wind speed and direction.

Since the accident British Airways pilots have been told to take wind, no matter how slight, into effect when making emergency stops. In the Manchester accident the aircraft came to a halt partially cross-

wind helping to drive the fire on to the fuselage.

Mr Donald Craig, British Airways chief engineer for technical and quality services, told the inquest that the airline had received letters from the engine makers, Pratt & Whitney, about possible problems in the combustion chamber of their JT8D type of engine fitted to the Boeing 737.

But it had been thought not to apply to the British Airways fleet because its engines were equipped with improved combustion cans. It was the eventual failure of one of those cans which started the disastrous explosion at Manchester.

"We felt they applied to a totally different standard of cans and it would not happen to us. We felt we had the situation under control," Mr Craig said.

He said that although the airline had a large number of complaints about the performance of the engine they were not regarded as serious or affecting safety or indicative of much more severe problems within the combustion chamber. He said British Airways still regarded the engine as the best in the world.

Minor rectifications had always cured the problems in the past.

Since the accident however British Airways had introduced a new regime of maintenance and engine checking which had involved the development of X-ray and fibre optic examination.

Mr Craig said he believed the fatal, 360° crack in the combustion can in the port engine had been instantaneous. He denied that British Airways had ever taken chances with safety.

The inquest was adjourned until today when the jury will return to consider its verdict.



Blaze rescue heroines: Miss Ford (left) and Miss Urbanski

'Very good value' from NHS

By Our Science Correspondent

The National Health Service has an "outstanding" record of value for money, and relatively small amounts of extra cash could restore public confidence in it and boost staff morale, according to a report published today.

The report, *Agenda for Health*, by the Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry, says the NHS is sometimes unfairly criticized. It challenges some of the findings of a recent study that Britain is the "sick man of Europe".

Britain has succeeded in achieving basic health standards comparable with those of similar countries, the report says. Death rates from heart disease have fallen in Britain, but not as rapidly as in the United States or Australia.

Life expectancy in Britain is in line with France, West Germany and the United States, at just over 70 years for men, and just under 80 years for women. It is only marginally inferior to Japan and Scandinavian countries, according to the report.

"These overall indicators cast into considerable doubt extreme claims of relative British failure in the health field."

However, there are "disturbing" variations in illness and death between social groups, and the impact of poverty and unemployment on health cannot be overlooked.

The report is available from the ABPI, 12 Whitehall, London SW1.

Reports clash on pill's cancer risk

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Women who take the contraceptive pill are today being advised to stay on it as conflicting evidence emerges about possible links with breast cancer.

Research in Norway and Sweden has shown a two-fold risk increase among women who have taken the contraceptive for as long as 12 years and a smaller threat to some women who have used the pill for eight or more years.

The study gives rise to concern, and if its findings are substantiated, the implications would be very serious, medical experts said yesterday.

But a separate study, also published today, shows no link between the pill and breast cancer. The conflicting evidence has prompted *The Lancet* and the *British Medical Journal*, which publish the studies today, to advise women not to change from oral contraceptives.

The chairman of the government Committee on Safety of Medicines, Dr Abraham Goldberg, has given the same advice in a letter to both journals.

Health experts are clearly anxious to prevent another "pill scare", such as occurred three years ago when other evidence of a cancer link emerged. It resulted in up to half a million women stopping the pill, and a consequent rise in unwanted pregnancies and abortions.

The latest research from Scandinavia involved more than 400 women who had newly-diagnosed developed breast cancer. It suggests that

the longer women use the pill beyond seven years, and before the birth of a first child, the more they are at risk of developing the disease before they reach the menopause.

However, a study of a similar number of women in New Zealand, also newly diagnosed as having the disease, concludes that there is no increased risk of the disease among pill takers.

The researchers say the study provides "strong evidence" against the hypothesis that use of oral contraceptives at young ages increases the risk.

The conflicting results of the two studies could be explained by different methods of gathering data, editorialists in the two medical journals say today. "Neither of the new studies gives any indication of the types of pill used, and therefore we have no idea whether the results are relevant to our own current practice," the journal says.

"The fact that one of these studies shows a possible association of oral contraceptives with breast cancer provides a powerful reason for trying to find out more."

"We cannot say with any certainty that the pill used for long periods early in reproductive life is, or is not associated with a change in the risk of breast cancer."

"While this uncertainty remains, there is no reason to change our prescribing habits or our advice to women using the pill."

Dr Goldberg also cites a much bigger American study which failed to find any link with cancer.



Maryam d'Abo was named yesterday as the leading actress for the next James Bond film, *The Living Daylights*. She will play a Czechoslovak cellist caught up in a plot of East-West double dealing (Photograph: Tim Bishop).

Breakfast opening at Tiffany's

By Suzy Menkes Fashion Editor

Tiffany, the jewellery store that gave breakfast a good name, reopened in London yesterday.

The world's largest canary yellow diamond-encrusted Tiffany's, daughter of the painter, were the stars of the opening party held, in deference to the famous Audrey Hepburn film, as a Breakfast at Tiffany's.

The New York store celebrates 50 diamond-encrusted years in 1987. A London branch of Tiffany was established in 1863, but closed during the Second World War. Mr William R. Chaney, chairman of the board, yesterday welcomed the re-establishment of the London connection and announced that it is part of a European expansion programme.

The managing director of the London shop is Miss Rosamond Monckton, former confidential secretary to King Constantine of the Hellenes and an experienced jewellery trader. She said jewellery was "not only something you wear, but a celebration of flair, charm and wit".

Miss Paloma Picasso, one of the Tiffany modern jewellery designers, dressed in scarlet and black, unveiled a newly designed necklace of diamonds, baroque pearls and a large central stone. But it could not match the Tiffany Diamond.

Living standards best for 12 years

By Michael Horsnell

Britons have not had it so good - provided they are in employment and have a mortgage - for at least the past 12 years.

A combination of lower tax burdens, cheaper mortgages and fuel, and steady shop prices means that income needs to have risen by only 1.2 per cent this year to have kept pace with overall costs compared with the previous 12 months.

This is the lowest figure ever reported in the *Cost of Living Report* by Reward Regional Surveys, the pay research and advisory company who have conducted authoritative surveys since 1974.

The story is less satisfying for families living in council houses for whom there has been an average 9.4 per cent increase in rents and rates.

The survey found that: A family living in a council house earning about the national average of £8,300 a year, which has consequently been relieved of 0.1 per cent of its tax burden in the past 12 months, needs a pay rise of 4.3 per cent to keep pace with the costs of last year.

A family with a mortgage of £26,000 and an income of £13,000 (tax down by 5.5 per cent) needs an increase of 0.2 per cent.

A family with a mortgage of £40,000 and an income of £21,000 (tax down by 5.9 per cent) could have endured a 0.6 per cent decrease this year to

maintain the same standards. A family with a mortgage of £55,000 and an income of £27,000 (tax down by 1.7 per cent) needs an increase of 0.5 per cent.

Direct taxation has been reduced by 4.1 per cent and the mortgage interest rate from 14 to 11 per cent in the period surveyed while the biggest gains have been among middle wage earners.

During the past 10 years a wide variation in shop price rises is reported: potatoes are unchanged; carrots, bacon, pork, soup, and biscuits are only about 65 per cent more expensive; eggs, lamb, butter, apples and oranges show an average 120 per cent increase; but aspirins cost 264 per cent more than 10 years ago and tea 333 per cent.

Watching a football match costs 250 per cent more than in 1976 but the cost of a television set costs a tiny fraction less than in those days - about £2 on average.

Mr Bill Couldrey, managing director of Reward Regional Surveys, told *The Times* yesterday: "When you ally costs to pay rises it is right to say Britain has not had it so good at least in the past 12 years. People are definitely better off. The increase in pay far exceeds the increase in living standards. But we are only talking about people in employment and those with mortgages."

Increase in home ownership

By A Staff Reporter

The average family has 1.8 children and lives in a house increasingly likely to house a video recorder and a home computer.

The latest household survey conducted by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys, which runs a continuous analysis of the way we live, shows that 61 per cent of families own their own home compared with 49 per cent in 1971.

Of all households 31 per cent amuse themselves with home videos and 13 per cent allow their lives to be at least partly regulated by home computers.

The average size of households in 1985 was 2.56 persons compared with 2.91 in 1971, representing a decline due mainly to an increase in the proportion of people living alone, which now stands at 34 per cent.

The proportion of families headed by a lone parent, mainly female, has risen from 8 to 14 per cent in the past 15 years, due to the increasing divorce rate.

Ninety-five per cent of the population is white but their average age is greater than that of the ethnic minorities. While 22 per cent of whites are aged under 15, 48 per cent of Pakistanis and Bangladeshis are in that age group as are 34 per cent of Indians and 27 per cent of West Indians.

Portfolio-Gold-Doctor to invest his winnings

A doctor, a retired personnel manager and a Civil Servant are among yesterday's Portfolio Gold prize winners.

Three of the four winners, who share the £4,000 prize, have been playing *The Times* Portfolio Gold game since it started.

Dr John Oliver, aged 63, from Tenbury Wells, Hereford and Worcester, said he was "very excited".

Mrs Nicky Ward, a retired personnel manager from Coleman's Hatch, East Sussex, said she felt "incredulous".

Mr Ivor Fairall, aged 58, a Civil Servant, of Sidcup, Kent, said he felt "terrific" about winning a Portfolio Gold share.

The other winner was Mrs M. U. Eugster from Hertfordshire.

Readers who wish to play the game can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to: Portfolio Gold, The Times, PO Box 40, Blackburn, BB1 6AJ.

Food firms to answer criticism

The £30,000 million food and drink industry yesterday launched a campaign to counter what it called "persistently hostile and misleading criticisms" of its methods, and in particular the use of additives (John Young writes).

The campaign, Food for Thought, will make a point of promoting "a new dialogue" with consumers and providing opportunities for the public to meet industry officials face to face or through the media.

Collectors in charity theft

Four people who collected £3,000 in public houses for Dr Barnardo's homes but kept the money were each put on probation for a year by Hendon magistrates in north London yesterday.

Keiran Matheson, aged 18, of Whitefriars Avenue, Wealdstone, Randolph Clark, aged 20, of Great North Way, Hendon, Celine Baruch, aged 17, of Carlyle Close, East Finchley, and Mary MacDonald, aged 23, of Golders Green Road, Golders Green, were told to repay the money.

Libya link is denied by doctor

Rasmi Awad, a Jordanian doctor, denied that he came to Britain on a terrorist mission to throw grenades into the crowd at Speaker's Corner, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

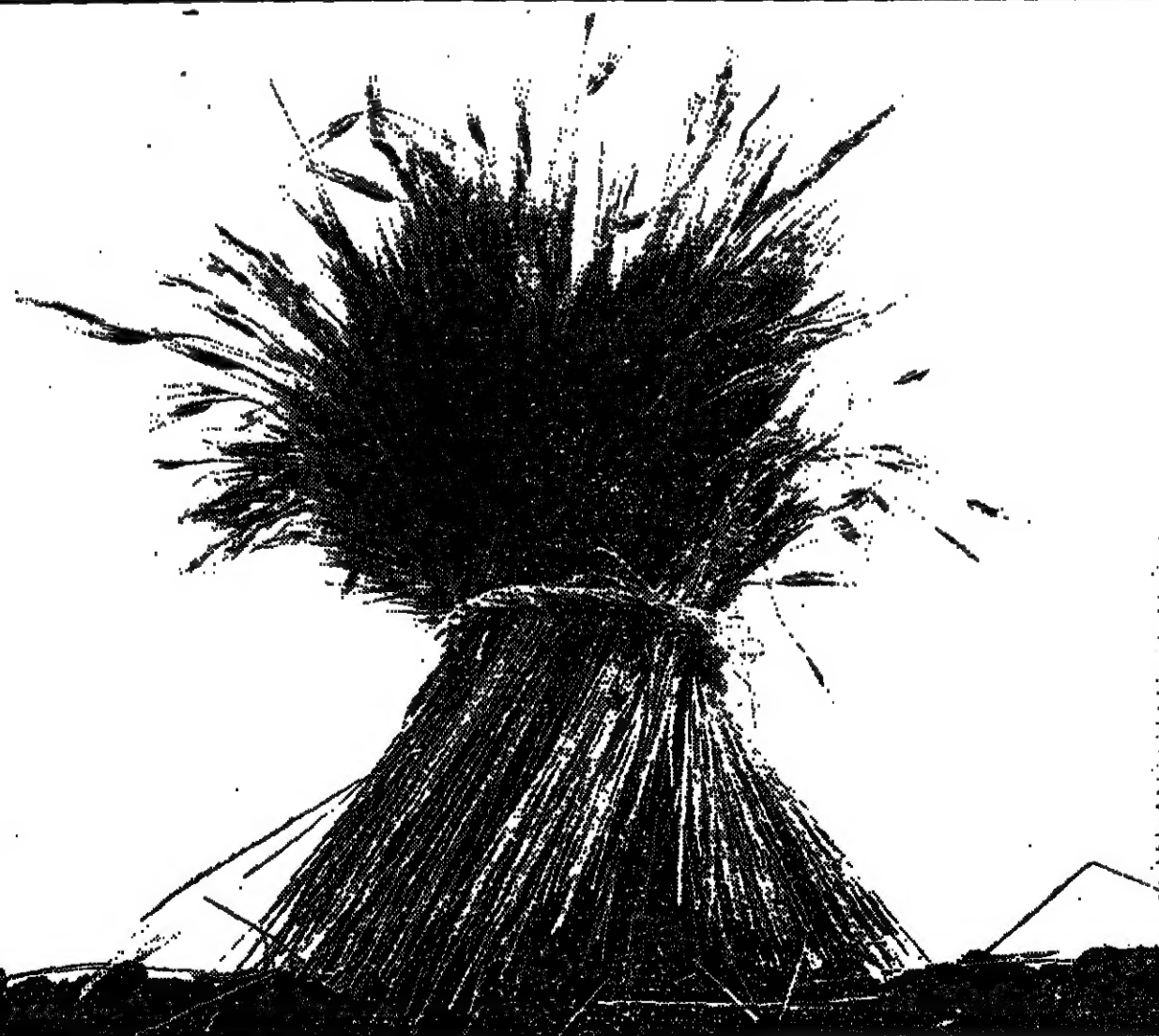
But Dr Awad, aged 44, admitted that he agreed to deliver a package to a stranger in Hyde Park, believing it to be drugs, according to evidence given by Det Chief Inspector Roger Newton.

The package held four grenades and was part of a Libyan plot to blow up targets in the United Kingdom, the prosecution says.

Dr Awad allegedly told officers he took on the job because he was among 18,000 doctors who were out of work in Spain.

Dr Awad and Nassar Muhammed, aged 28, deny conspiring to cause explosions in Britain.

The trial continues today.



Flour power

Without land the hungry cannot feed themselves, let alone grow a surplus for export. Yet they are increasingly being deprived of land by more powerful interests.

Christian Aid's appeal this harvest time is to give the poor the power to support themselves, and enjoy harvests not handouts.

By aiding projects which enable them to retain and develop their land; by providing legal aid which establishes their

rights under local law; by helping them secure the best yields; by setting up local cooperatives for peasant farmers to share in the export market.

The poor have an enormous potential to create peace and plentiful harvests for everyone's benefit. They need the power to use it.

Christian Aid THE CHURCHES IN ACTION WITH THE WORLD'S POOR.

Informer gets police protection

Raymond O'Connor, aged 50, told the Central Criminal Court yesterday he was receiving round-the-clock police protection after turning off a Provisional IRA bomb plot in Blackpool.

Mr O'Connor said he had received a "substantial" amount of money from police after being taken into protective custody when he alleged the police about the Eagle and Child public house, near Wexham Army camp.

Mr O'Connor, a cafe worker, of Blackpool, said in cross-examination when he first went to the police.

Mr O'Connor is the main prosecution witness against Thomas Maguire, aged 27, who pleads not guilty to a conspiracy between January 1982 and April 1983 with Patrick Magee, Patrick Murray and others to cause an explosion in the United Kingdom. The hearing continues today.

IBA urges longer franchise terms

The Independent Broadcasting Authority has asked the Government to extend current TV franchises for four years and then to introduce a system which will last for 12 years and can be automatically renewed.

The IBA claims that the four-year extension to the present contracts is essential to keep options open for the incoming government after the next election to make changes in the broadcasting system. Current franchises expire at the end of 1989.

The Home Office is understood to have offered a two-year extension, but Mr John Whitney, the IBA director-general, said that this would not be enough time to put a new franchising policy in place and could result in disruption and destabilization of the television system.

Under a 12-year deal, companies would have their contracts renewed almost automatically, provided they had met their public service obligations.

Broadcasting industry

IBA urges longer franchise terms

The IBA is opposed to the idea of the Peacock committee that franchises be awarded by competitive tender. If the bids were too high, programme standards would suffer and the system would give the Government a direct financial interest.

Television is persistently sexist in its portrayal of women but there is no conclusive evidence that public attitudes are affected, according to an IBA study published yesterday.

Dr Barrie Gunter, an IBA research officer, found that women are outnumbered by men on television.

The implication of sex-role stereotyping lies with the possible impact on the public's beliefs about men and women, with the greatest concern for the effects on children, Dr Gunter reported.

Television and Sex Role Stereotyping (Published for the IBA by John Libbey & Company, London: £12.50 hardback, £7.50 paperback).

£100m for satellite TV shows

By Teresa Poole

BSB, one of the five consortia competing for the satellite television franchise, yesterday undertook to spend at least £100 million on programmes in the first year of operation. It predicted that almost a third of Britain's homes with television would own a receiving dish after six years of satellite broadcasting.

Mr Andrew Quinn, project co-ordinator, said by the end of the 15-year franchise period BSB would be investing "considerably more" on programmes than BBC television - which now spends more than £400 million a year.

"Through the offer of a new and attractive programme service viewers will have to be persuaded in large numbers and very quickly to reinvest in television," he said.

BSB believes the retail price for the receiving equipment - including the 18 inch dish - will be £199.

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Longer life for nuclear power plants expected

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

British nuclear power stations now coming into operation could last more than six years longer than their allotted 30-year span if a development that reduces radiation damage to their building materials is used, researchers have found.

Such a move would make decisions on new plant less urgent.

The development is outlined in the annual report of the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, published yesterday.

The 30-year lifetime was chosen for the present Advanced Gas-Cooled Reactors, or AGRs, because the strength of the materials used to build them was impaired by constant radiation bombardment.

Mr Arnold Allen, chairman of the authority, who outlined the details of the development, also defended the nuclear industry against arguments for phasing out nuclear power.

He said: "Halting the development of nuclear power because of the Chernobyl nuclear accident would have dire consequences for future generations."

"The world's reserves of oil, gas and coal are limited and there is at present no prospect of renewable energy sources such as solar energy or windpower being developed on a scale or at a cost that

would permit more than a small contribution to the world problem.

"The only alternative source of energy known to be available on the scale needed and on the timescale required is nuclear power, making use of the world's uranium resources."

He added that the authority's technical experts were still analysing the events leading to the Chernobyl accident, which had also prompted a review of the training of operators.

Mr Allen said that the authority had an extensive development programme in the management and disposal of radioactive wastes.

Referring to the search by Nirex, the radioactive waste management organisation of which the authority is a member, for possible disposal sites, he said: "I understand the concern aroused among residents at these locations, but I believe their anxieties about the environmental impact to be quite misplaced."

"It is in everyone's interests to get on with the construction of a disposal site for low-level wastes."

Mr Allen said: "We remain concerned about the moratorium on sea dumping of waste, which we believe could be a wholly safe and economic method of disposal."



Lucinda Stokes, aged four, helping Lord Tonypanady to release balloons for the appeal (Photograph: Peter Trivnor).

Balloons launch £5m cancer appeal

By Angela Johnson

Lord Tonypanady, the former Speaker of the House of Commons, joined a host of stars from stage and television to help to raise £5 million for cancer treatment at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London yesterday.

Lord Tonypanady, aged 77, who

was treated for throat cancer at the hospital two years ago, helped to release more than 1,000 balloons to mark the launch of a fund-raising drive to build six operating theatres and two treatment wards.

Susan Hampshire and Liz Fraser, the actresses, Jimmy Hill, the sports presenter, and Colin Wel-

land, writer and director, all former patients at the hospital, took part in the launch.

Lord Tonypanady said: "It is thanks to the work done here that I am alive. Everyone should help raise money because you never know when cancer could strike you, a member of your family or a friend."

Electricity fiddle led to death

A couple's plan to cheat on their electricity bills went tragically wrong when a neighbour was killed, an inquest was told yesterday.

Mr Neil Shears and his wife, Linda, kept their bills low by feeding a cable to a next door flat which had its bills paid by the Department of Health and Social Security.

But the cable became faulty and the flat's occupant, Mrs Sharon Mead, aged 27, was killed by an electric shock while making a cup of tea, the inquest at Exeter, Devon, was told.

Mr Martin Thornton, the deputy assistant coroner, recorded a verdict of misadventure.

Mr Thornton said that Mr and Mrs Shears, of Merlin Crescent, Exeter, had an arrangement with Mrs Mead to utilize her electricity supply when they wanted to use their washing machine.

"The cable was stretched between the two flats so it could be done at the expense of the DHSS rather than the Shears", he said.

The inquest was told that the flats had been rewired by Exeter City Council a few days before Mrs Mead's death on July 10.

But after the workman had left, the cable was put back in position but became punctured at two points and came into direct contact with the metal window frame, Mr Thornton said. "It became a death trap and tragedy struck when Mrs Mead made a cup of tea."

He said that Mrs Mead's fingers touched the window frame.

Earlier the inquest heard claims from Mrs Mead's former husband that had rewiring of the flat was responsible for the death, but this was rejected by the coroner.

Mr Cyril Passmore, a South-West Electricity Board official, said that if the window frame had been earthed the death would not have happened.

Jet hijack inquest opened

An inquest was opened at Hornsey, north London, yesterday into the death of one of the victims of the Pan Am jet hijacking in Pakistan on September 5.

He was Mr Surendra Patel, aged 50, an American systems analyst living in Williamsburg, Fullerton, California.

Dr Susan Claydon, a pathologist, said the cause of death was haemorrhage due to gunshot wounds.

The inquest is being held in London because his family wants Mr Patel cremated in this country. The coroner, Mr Bernard Pearl, adjourned the hearing to a date to be fixed.

Shot PC was under scrutiny

A police officer found shot dead at his home on Wednesday was the subject of an inquiry, it was disclosed yesterday.

But West Mercia police refused to release details of the inquiry concerning PC Edward South, aged 24, of Goose Hill Close, Redditch, Hereford and Worcester.

Theme park allegations

Mr Peter De Savary, aged 42, the businessman, faces 44 summonses over building work at Littlecote House, the Wiltshire estate he bought last year for £8 million and converted into an historical theme park.

Allegations that Mr De Savary failed to submit full plans will be heard by Marlborough magistrates.

Test drilling to go ahead

Conoco, the oil company, has been given permission by West Sussex County Council to test-drill for oil between the villages of Turners Hill and West Hoathly, near East Grinstead.

More than 50 objections were received from residents.

Roman coin dispute may go to High Court

The ownership of a rare Roman gold coin, believed to be worth up to £10,000, unearthed in a ploughed field near Newark, Nottinghamshire, may be contested in the High Court.

The finder, Mr Grenville Shuttleworth, of Nessfield Road, Ekebyhead, Keighley, West Yorkshire, is considering an appeal after an inquest jury in Nottingham yesterday declared the coin to be treasure trove and thus the property of the crown.

Mr Shuttleworth, using a metal detector, came across the coin on January 12 this year in a ploughed field near the former Roman settlement of Crococalana at Brough, near Newark.

It was established, with the help of British Museum experts, that the coin is a gold aureus of the Roman Emperor Maximian, who reigned between AD284 and AD305. It was minted in Rome in AD293.

The coin is about the size of an old sixpenny piece weighing five grammes. One side

bears the head of Maximian and the reverse features Hercules armed with a club and dagger in combat with a serpent-like creature thought to be the Hydra. The coin bears the legend: "To Hercules the Conqueror."

Mr Michael Bishop, county archaeologist for Nottinghamshire, said: "The coin was part of the normal currency of the day and the highest denomination."

He added: "It is not a common find in this country and has a prestigious value."

A Roman legionnaire would have received only five similar coins for his annual pay.

Mr John Longham, the Nottinghamshire coroner, told the jury: "It is the hiding and not the abandonment which entitles the crown to possession. I don't think any human being would abandon a gold coin of such high value."

After the ruling Mr Shuttleworth said: "I will have to discuss the situation with my solicitors to decide an appeal. I am very disappointed."

These are the facts.

Doctors don't have a cure for AIDS yet. But we do know how it's spread and how to control it.



Many more men than women have been infected so far.

WHAT KIND OF PEOPLE GET AIDS?

The AIDS virus is not just caught by homosexual men and drug addicts. Many more men than women are infected so far. But all men and women can catch it and

FIRST, about sex. There is no risk if both partners know they're not infected. But if you're not sure about your partner - to be safe, don't have

sex. If you do have sex, men should wear a condom (also called a sheath or a rubber). This cuts down the risk of infection.

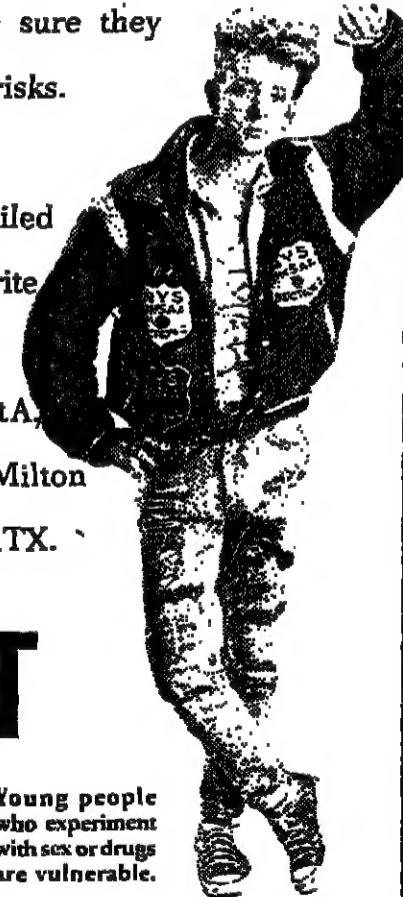
The more partners, particularly male partners, you have, the more likely it is that one of them will be in-

So remember - these are the two ways you are likely to get AIDS. No one has been infected through normal day to day contact.

As children grow up they may experiment

with sex or drugs. So if you are a parent, make sure they too know the risks.

For more detailed information write for the AIDS booklet to Dept A, PO Box 100, Milton Keynes, MK11 1TX.



Young people who experiment with sex or drugs are vulnerable.

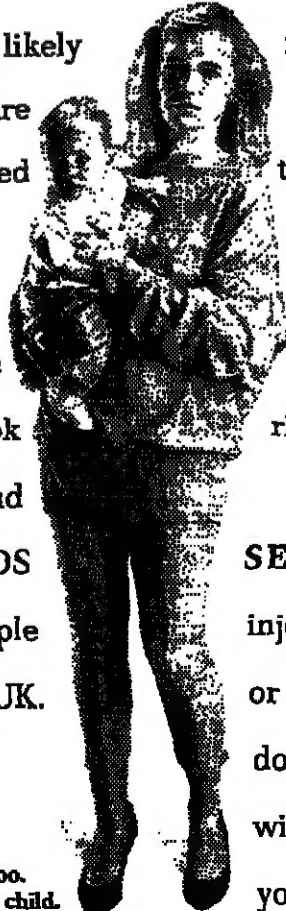
THE KIND THAT DON'T KNOW THE FACTS.

pass it on. It depends on how you behave.

The only ways you are likely to catch the AIDS virus are through sex with an infected person - and by sharing needles if you inject drugs.

You can't tell if someone is infected. They can look and feel completely well - and not know they have the AIDS virus. Probably 50,000 people are already infected in the UK. Don't join them.

Women can catch the AIDS virus too. A woman can pass it on to her unborn child.



fect. So beware of casual sex. Sex which might damage the anus, vagina, penis or mouth is particularly dangerous if one of the partners is infected. Anal sex involves the greatest risk. Avoid it.

SECOND, about drugs. If you inject drugs, do not share needles or other equipment. Better still don't inject at all. Just one fix with an infected needle can give you the AIDS virus.



More detailed information is available. 0345 581151.

If you are dialling from outside

THE HEALTHLINE TELEPHONE SERVICE
01-981 2717, 01-980 7222 or 0345 581151.

London, use the 0345 number and you'll be charged at local rates.

DONT AID AIDS

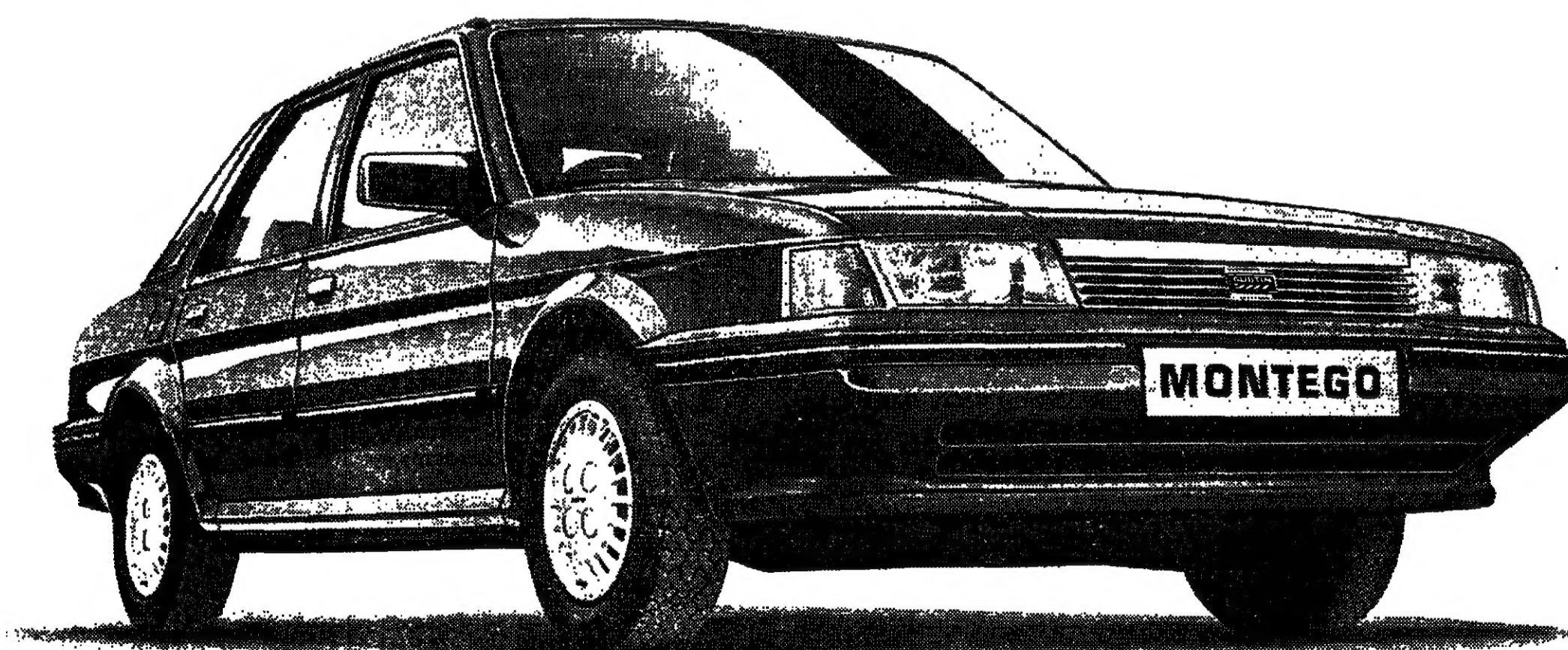
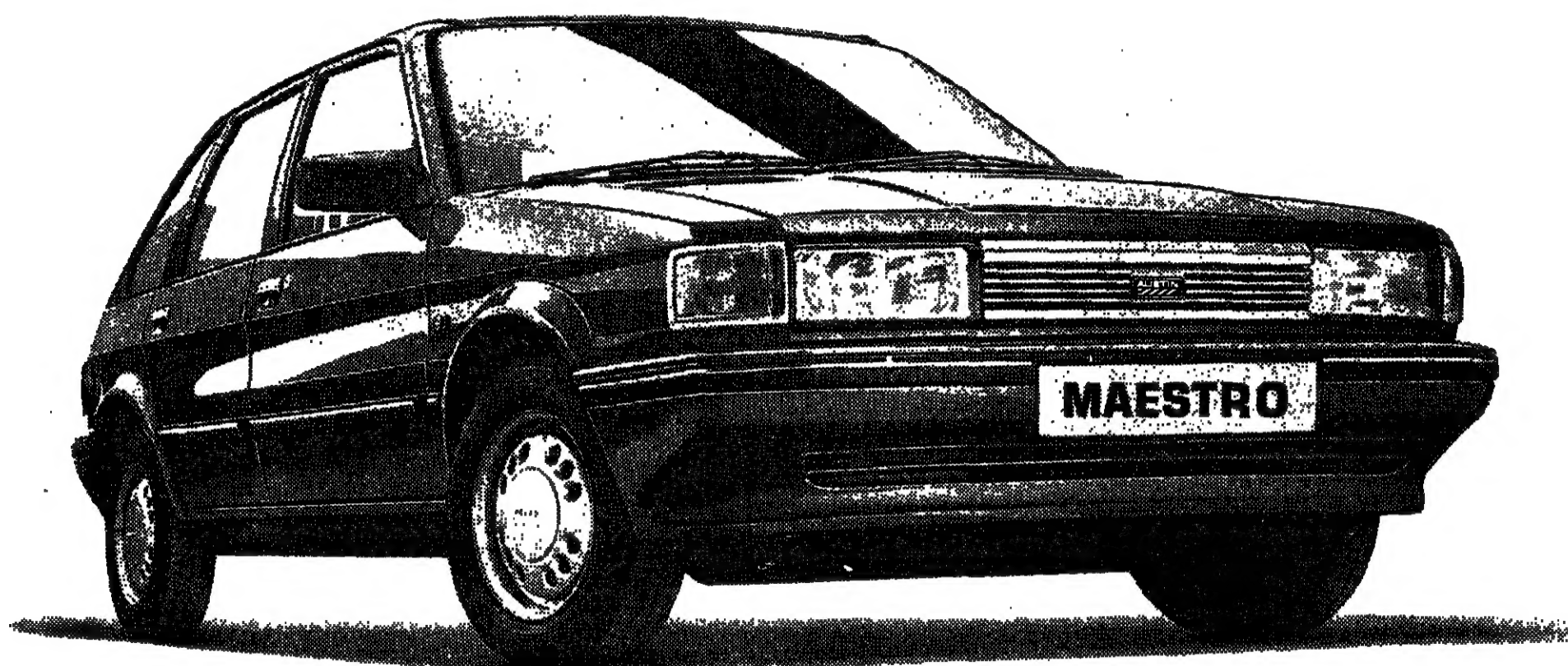
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Aquino triumph in US

Philippine communists given an ultimatum in speech to Congress

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

President Aquino of the Philippines, her visit to the United States already a resounding triumph, captivated a meeting of both houses of Congress yesterday with an emotional speech in which she issued a firm ultimatum to the communist insurgents to lay down their arms.

She thanked America for three happy years spent in exile with her children and murdered husband, Benigno, calling him "the sacrifice that answered prayers for freedom".

Wearing an outfit of bright yellow, the colours of her presidential campaign, she went on to attack the "slavery" of her country's \$26 billion (\$17.5 billion) external debt.

"No sooner is one stone laid than two are taken away," she said. "Half our export earnings, \$2 billion out of \$4 billion, which is all we can earn in the restricted markets of the world, must go to pay just the interest of a debt whose benefit the Filipino people never received."

Since Mrs Aquino arrived on Monday, the US has announced aid of \$150 million in addition to \$350 million already approved. The Philippines also is to obtain about \$800 million in new credits from international institutions, which could lead

to a rescheduling of \$8.5 billion in commercial bank debts.

The US has been delighted by Mrs Aquino's position on two big American military bases in the Philippines.

She has reaffirmed that agreements for the bases would be respected until 1991, although a review would occur as scheduled in 1988. Yesterday she proclaimed a "new beginning" for relations with the US.

But it was her bluntness about the debt run up under the government of Mr Ferdinand Marcos that dominated her speech.

Referring to the communist threat, she said: "I will not stand by and allow an insurgent leadership to spurn our offer of peace and kill our young soldiers and threaten our new freedom. Yet I must explore the path of peace to the utmost."

US officials have gone out of their way to praise Mrs Aquino's handling of the communist threat.

The Administration is embarrassed by earlier public criticism that she was not taking a tough enough stand against the insurgency, a criticism Mrs Aquino said she would ignore unless it was made face to face to her.

MANILA: Prosecutors ordered an investigation of two former Cabinet ministers, a former air force chief and six other men for possible involvement in the killing of Benigno Aquino (AP reports).

"Many conditions imposed on the previous government that stole this debt continue to be imposed on us... and no assistance or liberality commensurate with the calamity that was visited on us has been extended."

"Yet ours must have been the cheapest revolution ever. With little help from others, we Filipinos fulfilled the first and most difficult condition of the debt negotiation — the full restoration of democracy and responsible government."

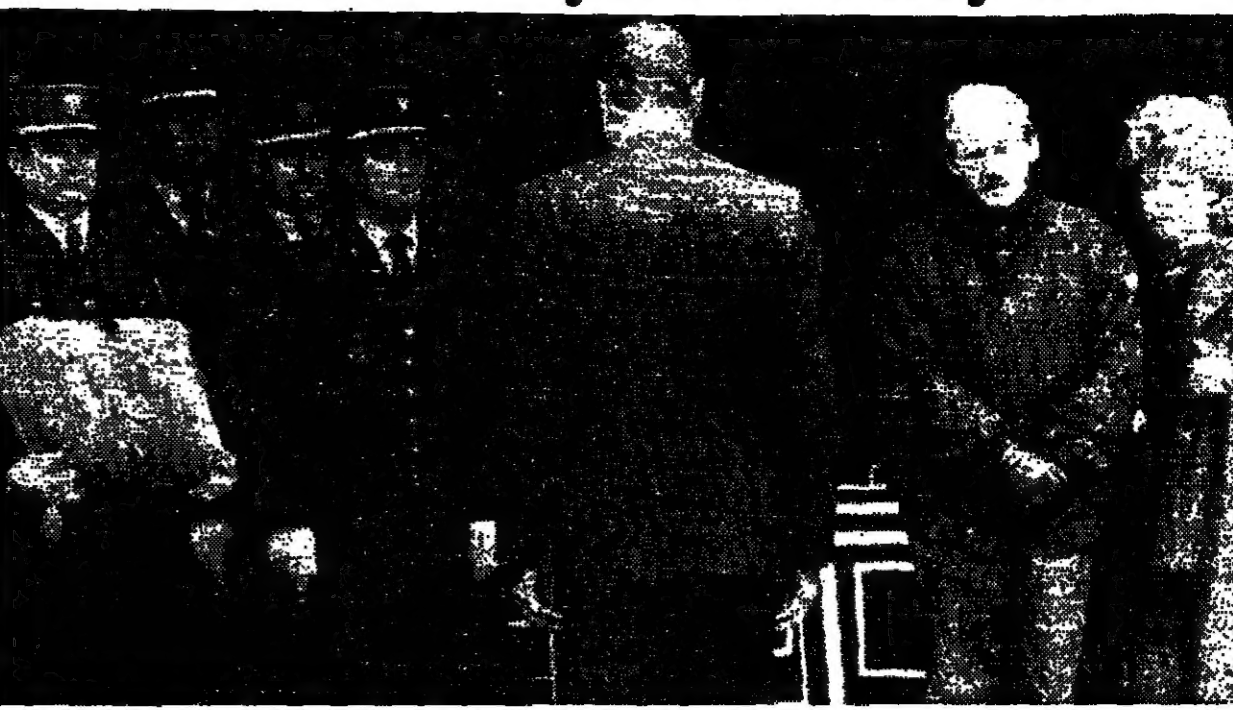
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Fear and cold fury after deadly attack



M Chirac, the French Prime Minister, inspecting medals awarded posthumously to Jean-Louis Bretan, the policeman killed in Sunday's bomb blast, in the presence of his parents during a ceremony at Paris police headquarters.

From Diana Geddes Paris

There is not yet panic, but there is fear. Wednesday's bomb attack on the Tati clothes store near Montparnasse has changed the climate in the French capital noticeably.

Not only because it was the most deadly of the recent attacks, with five dead and 53 injured, but because for the first time the bomb was thrown from a passing car.

Nothing can prevent an attack like that. Not the visas, spot checks, military border patrols, armed police, body searches, nor any other measures in the Government's new anti-terrorist arsenal. And the people are afraid. They know that the Government can do nothing, and they know that the attacks will continue.

The indiscriminate nature of the bombing adds to the fear. There seems no rhyme or reason in the chosen targets — a Metro, a post-office, a cafe, a police headquarters, a cut-price clothing store — save to

demonstrate the impotence of the French security forces and to spread panic by killing and maiming as many innocent people as possible.

All one can do is to try to avoid going anywhere where there might be crowds. In recent days there has been a noticeable drop in the number of people on the Metro during rush hour, shopping in the big department stores, dining in the more popular restaurants, going to the cinema, or attending mass spectacles like international football matches.

The endless wailing of police and ambulance sirens throughout the city adds to the feeling of insecurity. Is it another bomb, or just a false alarm? How many dead and injured this time?

People are beginning to talk of friends or family who were near the scene of an attack, or had been there minutes before. It makes it all rather too close for comfort. Will they be next? Terrorism is the topic on everyone's lips. It has pushed into the background politics,

with its endless petty rivalries and co-habitation ups and downs. For the moment, the country has forgotten its political differences and is united behind the Cabinet and what it is trying to do.

Fear has turned not to panic, but to anger and grim determination to face even worse attacks, rather than give in to the terrorists. Not a single voice has been heard suggesting that Georges Ibrahim Abdallah, the jailed terrorist whose release the bombers are demanding, should be set free.

On the contrary, even some of the mildest, most anti-capital punishment Frenchmen are now suggesting that he should rather be "quietly bumped off".

"You know, madame," a middle-aged shopkeeper said, "I'm totally opposed to the death penalty. I can't bear killing animals, let alone humans. But if I were the Government, I would go ahead and bomb the foreign capitals responsible for all this. And I

put the first bomber the police lay their hands on. It would be better not to know what they'll do to him".

The Paris streets, never known for their absence of policemen, are now positively crawling with armed security of all kinds. Bags are checked before entry to most establishments. Some have even started body searches.

A few weeks ago that would have provoked violent protests. But no one complains; indeed, people are relieved.

I lunched yesterday in a restaurant well known as a meeting place for journalists and politicians, and was astonished not to be searched on entering. "We know all our customers," the maître d'hôtel explained. "If we don't recognize their names and voices on the telephone, we say the restaurant is full". Many tables remained vacant.

As for Government ministries and the Elysée Palace, shown on the terrorists' list as their next target, they have become veritable fortresses.

Tuvalu in call to rich to secure island costs

Suva (Reuters) — Mr Tomasi Puapua, Prime Minister of Tuvalu, said yesterday that he had asked rich nations to set up a trust fund so that interest could pay the running costs of his tiny and impoverished South Pacific islands.

He said that the aim was to raise \$25 million (£11.4 million) which would be invested to generate an annual income of \$1.5 million.

Army inquiry into crash

An Army board of inquiry flew to investigate the crash of an Army Air Corps Lynx helicopter in the Pyrenees in which three servicemen died.

The dead were named as Lieutenant Kevin McKewen, 37, of the Royal Marines, married, from Shrewton, Wiltshire; Warrant Officer I Graham Reed, 39, of the Air Corps, married with three daughters, from Prestatyn, Clwyd; and Warrant Officer II Brian Ives, 37, married with one daughter, of the Air Corps, from Norwich.

Heritage plea

Gibraltar — Save Britain's Heritage, the conservation group, has joined the controversy over the demolition of Gibraltar's Old Command Education Centre, the 18th-century building is recommended for preservation in 1987.

Case dropped

Melbourne (Reuters) — A 38-year-old woman dying of lung cancer has dropped plans to sue two cigarette companies because she is too ill to pursue the case, her lawyers said.

Missile denial

Moscow (Reuters) — The Soviet Union admitted that a missile had gone off course last week, but the Foreign Ministry denied that it had landed in northern China.

River rescue

Peking (Reuters) — A Chinese explorer stranded for five days on a rock in the middle of Yangtze River rapids has been rescued, the China Daily said.

School starts

Berlin (AP) — The leader of the West Berlin Jewish community dedicated the first Jewish school in the city since the end of the Second World War.

Soviet call

Cairo (Reuters) — Mr Gennady Zhuravlyov, the Soviet Ambassador, presented his credentials to the Foreign Minister, Mr Esmat Abdel-Maguid, and reiterated support for a Middle East peace conference.

Grave bomb

Buenos Aires (Reuters) — A bomb damaged the grave of the man alleged to have been the Nazi war criminal Walter Kutschmann, police said.

Briton jailed

Pula, (Reuters) — Brian Thomas Hodgkins, aged 47, of London, was jailed for five years for a series of thefts along the Yugoslav river, court sources said.

Longer jail demand on junta men

From A Correspondent Buenos Aires

The Argentine Government, in a formal appeal to the Supreme Court, has asked for stiffer sentences against the nine former military commanders convicted of human rights violations during the fight against terrorism during the 1976-1983 dictatorship.

In his appeal, the Attorney General, Señor Juan Octavio Gauna, said the court had been "arbitrary".

In its verdict of December last year, the court handed down life sentences to the former President, Jorge Videla, and to Admiral Emilio Massera; 17 years to General Roberto Viola, a former President during the military dictatorship; eight years to Admiral Armando Lambruschini; and 4½ years to Brigadier-General Ramón Agosti.

The prosecution had also asked for 15-year jail sentences for another former President, Lieutenant-General Leopoldo Galtieri, and Brigadier-General Omar Grassano; 12 years for Admiral Jorge Anaya; and 10 years for Brigadier-General Basilio Lami Dozo. All four were acquitted.

Israel hits back for attack on allies

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Israeli helicopter gunships were reported to be rocketing Lebanese guerrillas in the foothills of the mountains east of Sidon yesterday after anti-Israeli gunmen had made their most devastating attack to date on Israel's proxy "South Lebanon Army" militia.

Up to 75 men, including members of the Islamic Resistance — the usual name adopted in southern Lebanon by the Hezbollah (Party of God) movement — and the Lebanese Communist Party, had stormed into four SLA positions, killing at least eight militiamen before retreating down the slopes below the village of Jarjura.

Twelve of them captured two SLA men but were forced to release them when they were

were apparently surrounded by SLA reinforcements.

According to Lebanese journalists in Sidon, the 12 were still under attack last night by Israeli helicopters as they made their way down the mountainside in the dusk.

It was the fourth guerrilla attack on the SLA in a week and came only a day after Mr Uri Lubrani, the Israeli adviser on Lebanon, claimed that the SLA would increase its military operations outside the Israeli occupation zone if guerrilla raids continued.

In what was presumably retaliation for the attack, shells from artillery in the mountains, fired either by SLA men or by Israeli troops, fell across 15 Shia Muslim villages south-east of Sidon.

Chernobyl design error

Moscow (Reuters) — The Chernobyl nuclear power station was designed by experts in hydro-electric plants unfamiliar with nuclear reactors, Pravda said yesterday.

In a report on a tour of the plant, the newspaper criticized the reactor's designers for having failed to foresee the possibility of the safety viola-

tions which led to the worst nuclear accident on April 26.

"In this the construction designers made a certain error," it said.

Pravda said that clearing radioactive debris from the power station roof was posing difficulties, since remote-controlled machines were hard to operate there.

East bloc halo on Iron Lady

From Roger Boyes Warsaw

A surprisingly sympathetic portrait of Mrs Margaret Thatcher emerges from her first full-length biography published in the Soviet bloc.

It was the Soviet Union, in a satirical journal *Krokodil*, that first labelled her "the Iron Lady". After seven years in office and with Mrs Thatcher due to visit Moscow, the Iron Lady's armour is beginning to take on flattering contours.

The book, published in Warsaw under the title *Iron Lady from Downing Street*, is written by a former London correspondent, Mr Marek Zaleski, who has consulted such basic sources on British affairs as *The Times* and *Pravda*.

Mrs Thatcher — or, in more intimate moments, "Maggie" — is described as determined, unflappable, self-confident, tough but sensible, unyielding

but at the same time tactful.

Even her weaknesses turn out to be nothing more than cunningly camouflaged virtues. The author on the Prime Minister's speechcraft: "Mrs Thatcher was aware that she could hardly compete with the oratorical skills of Mr James Callaghan or, actually, of any other outstanding Labour or Conservative politicians."

"So she never tried to dazzle anybody with her speeches, even during the election campaign. Her speeches might have been boring, but they were short and to the point and thus her lack of oratorical gifts turned into a real asset."

Mr Zaleski considers that before the Falklands conflict she was probably the most unpopular head of government in the West, "but her quick reactions and courageous decision-making changed all that and elevated her to the status of the unquestioned leader."

The sharpest criticism is on Mrs Thatcher's handling of unemployment. A speech to a Conservative conference in Brighton, in which she regretted the human waste of unemployment, was "nothing more than a flirtation with public opinion and an attempt to arrive at a peculiar apology for the Government."

Has Mr Zaleski abandoned his unique defence of the Prime Minister? It seems not, because it turned out that she was right in her unyielding defence of economic policy.

Stifling inflation and restoring confidence in the currency proved correct. Of course, unemployment did not go away. But is Mrs Thatcher really to take all the blame for the doubling of unemployment figures between May 1979 and May 1983?

In a sense, yes. On the other hand, only about 25 per cent of people polled in December 1982 blamed Mrs Thatcher.

Minister ends drug trail tour

From Geoffrey Matthews Bogotá

Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, was scheduled to fly back to Britain from Bogotá today at the end of a two-week fact-finding mission to South America to investigate the international cocaine racket.

During his trip, he visited four of the key countries involved in the production of cocaine: Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, and finally Colombia.

Yesterday, in a series of meetings in Bogotá, he discussed Colombia's continuing campaign against the racket with the Justice Minister and Interior Minister in President Barco's Government which took office six weeks ago, as well as police and military chiefs.

He later called at the United States Embassy, whose resident Drug Enforcement Administration agents are considered the unrivalled experts on the continental drug-smuggling network.

At the embassy he also met Mr Charles Gillespie, the US Ambassador, who recently told local businessmen that, while the Colombian police's anti-narcotics squad was the most effective in Latin America, the nation continued to be the source of 75 per cent of the cocaine entering the US.

Colombia is the main centre for the processing of cocaine from paste brought in from Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and also Brazil, where the coca plant flourishes.

✶ Aircraft gift: Money, an aircraft and two Land-Rovers have been offered by the Government for the fight against drugs in three South American countries, Mr David Mellor, Minister of State at the Home Office, has announced during his tour (Our Home Affairs Correspondent writes).

The Government has told Peru it can have a reconditioned Britten Norman Islander aircraft and will buy another as a matter of urgency.

By-election win boosts poll hopes

Johannesburg — The likelihood of a South African general election this year was considered yesterday to have been increased by the National Party's good showing in Wednesday's by-election in the Klip River constituency in the Ladysmith region of Natal (Michael Hornsby writes).

The result has focused attention on President Botha's speech at the opening of the Transvaal provincial congress of the National Party in Pretoria this evening where he may give some indication of his electoral intentions.

In a straight fight between the National Party's Mr Jacko Maree and Mr Chris Wolmarans, of the extreme right-wing Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP), the Government scored a comfortable victory.

Mr Maree received 5,863 votes, 3,033 more than the 2,830 cast for Mr Wolmarans. For a by-election, there was a high turnout of 58 per cent.

A spokesman for President Botha called the result, in a predominantly English-speaking province, "a sign that South Africa is uniting".

The HNP claimed a moral victory on the ground that the right-wing vote had doubled since the last general election. But there is no real comparison, as the last election took place before the breakdown of the National Party of Dr Andries Treurnicht.

The Conservative Party did not put up a candidate in Klip River.

A senior National Party source said yesterday that President Botha was "personally itching to hold an election". One reason is thought to be the frequent snout from right-wingers that he no longer has a mandate from white voters.

The last general election was in April 1981, and the Government's five-year term would normally have expired earlier this year. But when the new Constitution was introduced in 1984 the white House of Assembly term was extended to 1989.

Black anger over mining disaster

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The executive of South Africa's black National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) was expected to meet last night to consider possible protest action over the loss of life at the Kinross gold mine where 177 miners died last Tuesday after an underground fire.

The NUM general secretary, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, described the disaster at the mine as "completely unnecessary" after visiting it on Wednesday, and suggested that proper safety measures regarding the use of flammable materials and the provision of fire extinguishers had not been observed.

There is also a possibility that the Kinross disaster could have an impact on important wage negotiations.

On July 1, the Chamber of Mines unilaterally introduced wage rises ranging between 15 and 20 per cent, but the NUM, which claims a membership of some 300,000 of the more than 500,000 blacks working in the mines, continued to hold out for an across-the-board 30 per cent rise.

A formal dispute was then declared. At talks last Monday, before the Kinross disaster, the two sides seemed to be edging towards a compromise. The NUM reduced its demand to 26 per cent, while the Chamber of Mines reportedly raised its offer by another 2 per cent.

Meanwhile, Gencor, the Afrikaner-dominated mining house which owns Kinross, said that there was now only one miner still not accounted for, and presumed dead.

Mr Peter Gush, the president of the Chamber of Mines, promised that once the full details of "how a tragedy of this scale occurred" were known, the industry would "move rapidly to take steps to prevent any possible recurrence of such an event".

A spokesman for the chamber said that, on the evidence so far, the wide use in gold mines of polyurethane materials, such as insulating and sealing agents, would have to be thoroughly investigated.

Leading article, page 17

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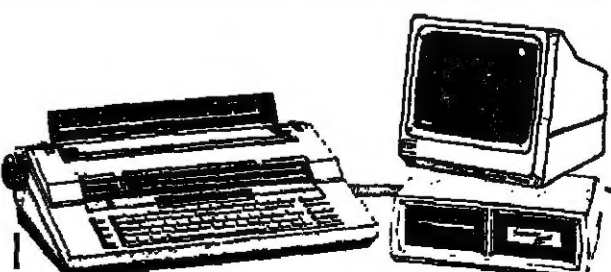


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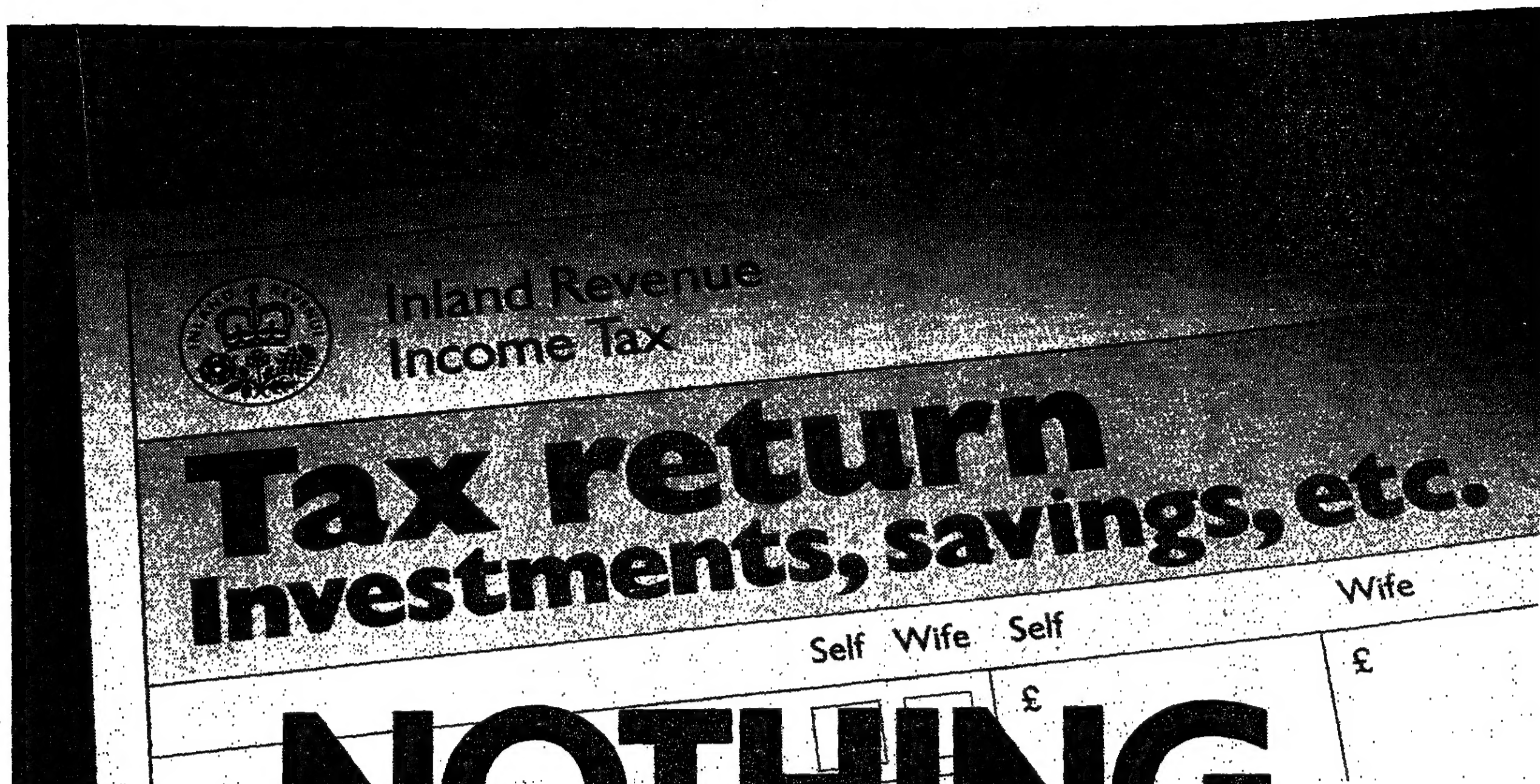
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Superpower summit in danger

Moscow warns of tit-for-tat if UN Russians are expelled

From Christopher Walker, Moscow

The Soviet Union yesterday reacted angrily to the US decision to expel 25 members of its United Nations Mission by the end of the month and threatened that the Kremlin would take unspecified retaliatory measures if the expulsions went ahead.

The official warning, issued at a crowded press conference here on the eve of today's crucial meeting between the Soviet and American foreign ministers has raised the possibility of a damaging series of tit-for-tat expulsions. It has also further called into question the prospects of staging a second superpower summit before the end of the year.

American diplomatic sources later said that the US could be expected to respond swiftly, and in kind, if the Soviet authorities began to order the expulsion of American diplomats, journalists or businessmen from Moscow to match the move against its 25 employees at the UN in New York.

Speaking less than 24 hours after the original Washington announcement, Mr Boris Pyadyshev, the Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman, described the US action as scandalous and said it was a deliberate

attempt to spoil relations in advance of the talks between Mr Eduard Shevardnadze and Mr George Shultz.

"We do not want to close our eyes and turn our back. The US is making a mistake in thinking that this provocative step will have no consequences," the spokesman told reporters. "Such actions in international affairs always have consequences."

Mr Pyadyshev refused to be drawn into spelling out the nature of the retaliation or when it would be put into effect by the Kremlin.

The Soviet official, whose briefing was understood to have been cleared at the top level of the Soviet hierarchy, was asked how Moscow might hit back since there were no Americans working for international organizations like the UN based inside the Soviet Union.

"I would note that the principle of mirror reaction is not always the best one," he replied.

His remarks increased concern among the 30 American journalists who are now accredited in Moscow that some of them might be singled out for expulsion.

Mr Pyadyshev showed no sign of any weakening of the



Mrs Eduard Shevardnadze, wife of the Soviet Foreign Minister, leaving the Soviet Mission to the UN on Wednesday.

Kremlin's persistent hard line on the Daniloff case, referring instead to what he claimed was fabricated evidence against Mr Gennady Zakharov, the Soviet physicist who is awaiting trial for spying.

Mr Pyadyshev, a veteran diplomat and a former deputy head of the Foreign Ministry's US Department, used the televised press conference as a vehicle for launching a sweeping attack against the Reagan Administration, noticeably more bitter in tone than those given here by other officials in the wake of Mr Daniloff's arrest on August 30.

Leading article, page 17

Americans seek concessions in Stockholm security talks

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm

The United States was attempting last night to wring concessions from the Soviet Union as today's deadline approached for the reaching of agreement at the Stockholm security conference.

American officials stressed that they wanted a successful conclusion to the two-year-old Stockholm meeting before Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, meet in Washington.

The US negotiating team emphasized the importance of this meeting as a forerunner to any summit meeting between President Reagan and Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the So-

viet leader, and pushed the Soviet delegation for concessions on the two remaining obstacles to an agreement at Stockholm.

The first concerned the size of military activities that should be notified in advance. The Warsaw Pact wants activities involving up to 16,000 men excluded from notification. Nato wants that threshold reduced to between 9,000 and 10,000.

Under the provisions of the 1975 Helsinki agreement, which stipulated that exercises involving 25,000 troops should be notified, the Soviet Union has told the West of about three or four such manoeuvres each year.

If the threshold was reduced to between 9,000 and 10,000 men, it would result in perhaps 20 to 25 notifications of Warsaw Pact military activities each year.

The second concession being fought for by the US involves the aircraft to be used by inspection teams and who will fly them.

Nato recently dropped its previous insistence that inspecting nations should fly their own planes and grudgingly went along with a proposal that they be supplied and piloted by neutral nations.

Yesterday the Soviet Union remained seemingly implacably opposed to this idea.

Kremlin sets its terms on missiles

From Alan McGregor, Geneva

Soviet acceptance of any interim reduction in intercontinental nuclear weapons depends upon simultaneous agreement by both superpowers to comply with the 1972 anti-ballistic missile treaty for 15 to 20 more years.

This position was stated

here yesterday by the acting head of the Soviet delegation, Mr Alexei Obukhov, before negotiations resumed on controlling nuclear and space weapons.

The latest American proposal, announced on Wednesday and conveyed to the Russians yesterday by Mr Max Kampelman, the chief US negotiator, is for a 30 per

cent, instead of 50 per cent, cut in strategic arms as an interim measure.

Mr Obukhov said the Soviet Union would like a ban on all space strike weapons but was prepared to agree on partial measures, such as banning anti-satellite weapons or space-based weapons directed at targets on Earth.

New chief for US Supreme Court

Senate approval for conservative

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The Senate voted by 65 to 33 votes to confirm the nomination of Justice William Rehnquist to succeed Chief Justice Warren Burger as head of the Supreme Court. The opposition was considerably stronger than expected, and Mr Rehnquist received more negative votes than any other justice ever confirmed to the court.

Two liberal Republicans - Senator Charles Mathias of Maryland and Senator Lowell Weicker of Connecticut - joined the Democrats and voted against Mr Rehnquist. Senator Mathias, who had supported him at the Senate committee stage, changed his mind, saying he was disturbed by testimony that Mr Rehnquist failed to excuse himself from hearing a 1972 case concerning army surveillance of political groups, a policy he had helped to formulate.

The Senate also voted unanimously to confirm the

nomination of Judge Antonin Scalia to fill the vacant place on the High Court.

President Reagan said the two men would be "strong and eloquent voices for the proper role of the judiciary and the rights of victims". He was confident they would serve the court and the country well.

Both men are strong conservatives, and Chief Justice Rehnquist is expected to give a more firmly conservative stamp to the court's decisions.

Opposition to him centred on his alleged racism and attempts to prevent blacks voting in elections in the 1960s. Throughout the often bitter debate, his opponents, led by Senator Edward Kennedy, challenged his judicial ethics, his candour, his record on civil rights and individual liberty and, in the words of Senator Paul Simon, an Illinois Democrat, his ability to serve as "a symbol of justice for all our people".



Chief Justice Rehnquist, left, and Judge Scalia: seen by President Reagan as upholding proper role of judiciary

Nuclear lab shoot-out gets guards the sack

Livermore, California (AP) - Two guards at a nuclear research centre have been dismissed after a prank in which they fired blanks from laser-equipped weapons at a fellow guard, who answered with real bullets, officials said.

Two other guards at the Sandia National Laboratory were placed on unpaid leave after the incident.

The guard who fired the real bullets is having counselling and will return to work on probationary status, Marilyn Mulhall, vice-president of Advanced Security of Atlanta, said yesterday.

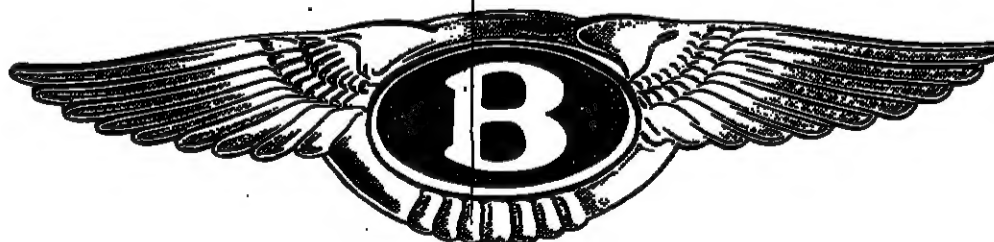
The company has a \$6.8 million (£4.6 million) contract to provide security for the laboratory. One of the sacked guards was wounded in the leg.

The disciplinary actions were taken because of "gross errors in judgment" exhibited by the five men, said the company.

Sandia, a subsidiary of AT & T Technologies, is operated and funded by the department.

Sandia performs secret research on non-nuclear components of nuclear weapons.

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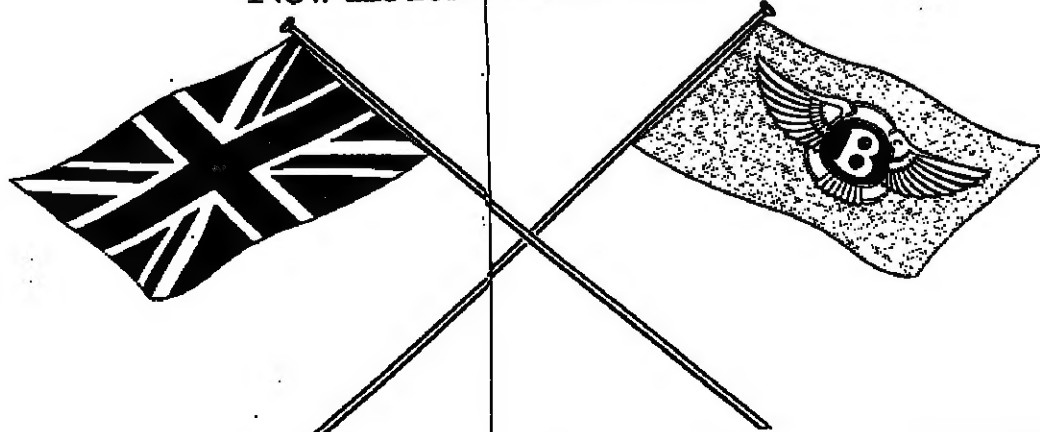


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Extradition of terrorists

Britain offers treaty in attempt to improve relations with India

From Our Own Correspondent, Delhi

Britain took an important step towards improving relations with India yesterday when the High Commission in Delhi delivered to the Foreign Ministry the draft of a bilateral extradition treaty.

The treaty is something that the Indian Government has long been pressing for, since there is a widespread feeling among official circles and in the public at large that Britain is not doing enough to deal with Sikh terrorists.

Until yesterday the British attitude has always been that a bilateral treaty is not necessary since the problems can be dealt with by amendment to the multilateral Fugitive Offenders Act, which governs extradition arrangements between Commonwealth countries.

India's anger over what its establishment sees as British indulgence towards the Sikhs has now finally overridden his reluctance.

The treaty presented yesterday goes a long way towards meeting their requirements.

It is perhaps a measure of how bad relations between the two governments have now become that the official In-

dian government spokesman declined repeatedly last night to welcome the concession, saying simply that India wished to see what the final outcome of the negotiations might be.

Aside from the Sikh question, and the related issue of pro-Pakistan militants from Kashmir, relations have taken a further sharp fall over the issue of sanctions against South Africa, and what the Indians see as racially discriminatory visa requirements shortly to be imposed by Britain on visitors from the sub-continent.

Although Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said during his visit here at the beginning of April that he was not in favour of a new treaty, he did make some proposals for improving extradition arrangements which are now incorporated in the British draft.

The draft also includes a proposal to disallow the "political" defence for acts of terrorism, which was proposed to Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, when he was in London last October.

The Indians themselves

submitted a draft treaty in January of this year, and the British proposal includes some of the suggestions made then — in particular, it includes the crime of conspiracy in India to commit an act of terrorism in India among those not protected by the political defence.

British officials regard the "no-list" method of defining extraditable crimes as an improvement on the Indian draft.

This makes extraditable any crime which would attract a sentence of at least 12 months in both countries, instead of relying on a list of agreed crimes, and was the main proposal made by Sir Geoffrey in April.

In one respect it is less than the Indian proposal. The Indians wanted to exclude a "humanitarian" clause, which is present in their own extradition law, protecting individuals from extradition where they might be harshly treated on racial or other grounds.

The negotiations on the treaty will be taken up at the beginning of October when a team led by Dr P. Srinivasa Rao, the Foreign Ministry's legal affairs director, will go to London.

Seoul police on parade for Asian Games



South Korean police assembling yesterday for a briefing outside the Olympic Stadium in Seoul before the start of the Asian Games tomorrow.

They are seeking a radical left-wing student they suspect played a key role in the Seoul airport bomb attack last Sunday, police sources said (Reuters).

reports from Seoul). Police were also screening the records of 267 foreigners who visited South Korea shortly before the attack, in the belief that one of them may have smuggled in the explosives used for the bomb.

The sources said the student, who evaded a crackdown on radical anti-government

students last month, could have been aided by North Korea. The Government has said the attack was carried out either by North Korea, which it accuses of trying to sabotage the Games, or by "inspire element" influenced by the North. Pyongyang has rejected the charge.

US forces shake-up cuts across red tape

From Christopher Thomas Washington

Congress has approved the most sweeping military reorganization in 40 years, giving substantial new powers to the 10 theatre commanders based from Europe to the Pacific and making the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff the principal military adviser to the President.

The changes are designed to slice through the interminable layers of Washington bureaucracy that have prevented or slowed decision-making by commanders on the ground.

Snarls in the command chain have been blamed for contributing to the deaths of 241 American servicemen in Beirut in October 1983, when a lorry loaded with explosives was driven into their headquarters barracks.

The Bill was sent to President Reagan on Wednesday for signature. Mr Caspar Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, and the Joint Chiefs had earlier opposed the changes.

Mr Les Aspin, chairman of the House armed services committee, said the reorganization was "one of the landmark laws of American history" and "declares an end to four decades of lip service" to the idea that the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps act as a team rather than as competitors.

The changes were initiated in the Senate, after which the House produced versions of its own. Compromises were agreed during long, arduous negotiations.

Representative Bill Nichols, chief architect of the legislation in the House, said the most important change was the strengthening of the role of the commanders. "We give them the awful responsibility of winning but not always the tools they need," he added.

At present the US commander of European forces, for example, could not even dictate where ammunition must be stored but must go through the military bureaucracy for permission.

Mr Nichols said that under the Bill the commander could, among other things, store ammunition where he wished, hire and fire four-star generals and admirals, and send his budget recommendations directly to the Defence Secretary.

Designers of the Bill believe it will take four or five years to determine fully whether it has been effective. Senator Barry Goldwater, chairman of the Senate armed services committee, said the measure was his proudest achievement and "the only thing I have done in the Senate that is worth a damn".

Under present rules, the chairman of the five-member Joint Chiefs of Staff presides over that body and presents its collective view to the President.

Under the new rules, the chairman will not have to present consensus opinions. He will also be the principal military adviser to the National Security Council and the Defence Secretary and could serve as long as six years rather than the current four.

Tamil attacks and Colombo policy sap morale

Strain starts to hit Sri Lanka troops

From Michael Hamlyn Jaffna

While the Tamil communities in the north and east of Sri Lanka have gathered most of the international sympathy offered to the warring citizens of the country, it is also possible to feel some pity for the much-criticized Sri Lankan armed forces.

It is not much fun for the soldiers to be penned up in their camps in the northern peninsula of Jaffna while armed militants lie in wait at every gate.

They get no enjoyment from being compelled to sit there while the Tamil rebels, seeking the establishment of a separate Tamil state, lob home-made but none the less effective mortar bombs at them, together with a mixture of rocket-propelled grenades and rifle bullets.

"We want peace, too, you know," said Brigadier Gerry Da Silva, the security forces commander in the Jaffna peninsula. "We miss the company of our families, too. We want this war to end."

After a number of incidents involving members of Tamil men, women and children were massacred to avenge the deaths of soldiers in guerrilla ambushes, the Sri Lankan forces now seem to be under more perfect control. But the result is that the men chafe under what they feel is the

unpleasant restraint of national policy. The Army has increased the strength and depth of its patrols since May, but the only way to bring the peninsula back under military control would be the establishment of army encampments every 10 miles.

The result would be that every part of the district would be within reach of a foot patrol that was within reach of a

camp. But the cost in terms of manpower and money would be unrealistic.

Because of this the patrols that do leave the camps are instantly engaged by the rebel groups, and every day fire-fights occur. Since many of the camps are in densely populated areas, the risk to local Tamil civilians is high and

Tamil guerrillas are believed to be responsible for the blast. Tamils form only 40 per cent of the province, but it is claimed by the separatists as part of their traditional homeland.

many casualties have been inflicted.

The Army also still faces some problems of discipline. Last week, for example, a young hysterical soldier shot his officer and two others because he was aggrieved over his leave.

"The indiscipline has been greatly exaggerated," said Brigadier Da Silva, but he admitted it did exist. In places like Point Pedro,

the northernmost town of the island republic, the population has avoided the threat from the crossfire, or from the indiscipline, by abandoning homes, shops and markets and moving away from the gates of the camp. Point Pedro has become a ghost town.

But in Jaffna, the capital of the district (this is not so easily done).

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, the biggest of the rebel groups, has built its own 155 mm mortar and has a small factory turning out aluminium-cased mortar bombs to fill it. The use of this provokes the Army to respond in kind with mortars of its own.

The result is that people have died in the town's central market.

"I keep telling people that if they see the terrorists bringing up their weapons they must move out, at least for an hour or so," said the brigadier, who was an officer cadet at Sandhurst in the early 1960s. "We are definitely going to react."

Reagan wins battle over aid for Unita

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

The Democrat-controlled US House of Representatives has given President Reagan an important foreign policy victory by voting to continue covert military aid to Dr Jonas Savimbi's guerrilla forces fighting the Marxist Government of Angola.

By a 229-189 vote, the House on Wednesday defeated a bid by opponents to kill President Reagan's approval earlier this year of a \$15 million (£10.2 million) aid deal for the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (Unita).

President Reagan and his congressional supporters see the aid for the rebels as a crucial element in stemming Soviet expansionism in southern Africa.

Unita has been fighting a bush war for more than a decade against Luanda.

Before the House vote, Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, sent a letter to Congress saying the bid to kill the aid would stop any movement toward a negotiated settlement in Angola.

Mr Shultz plans to discuss apartheid, economic sanctions and the Namibia independence dispute during a visit he is tentatively planning to southern Africa next month.

Details have to be worked out, but the tour is expected to last about 10 days, and he is likely to visit South Africa, some black African frontline states, including Zambia and possibly Kenya, and at least one West African nation.

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INFORMATION

OFFICE

From Stephen Taylor, Sydney

and Australia from the Anzus defence pact last month.

Australia maintains defence ties with New Zealand, however. The RAN will have exercises with the RNZN after the "Croweater" series.

It was established earlier

this year that the task group, which is on a world voyage, calling at ports in China, Hong Kong, South Korea, Singapore and Brunei, would not be visiting New Zealand.

Sir John Fieldhouse, Chief of the Defence Staff, went to Wellington in February but talks failed to resolve dif-

Sir John indicated at the time that the nuclear ban might affect defence co-opera-

This episode establishes

New Zealand's decision to proceed with anti-nuclear legislation led to its suspension from AIZIS last month.

In the letter, Mr Fraser said: "British influence, properly used, can be pre-eminent in achieving a change of heart in New Zealand, and the tragedy is that that approach

Mr Bill Hayden, the Foreign Minister, said: "I don't think the US paid any attention to it."

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by hundreds of peasants in the Costa Rican capital.

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SPECTRUM

Kilroy is here, five days a week

If Robert Kilroy-Silk did not already exist, Phil Donahue, the top American talk show host, could shortly claim to have invented him. The Labour MP is about to resign his seat to front a daytime television show for the BBC which is likely to bear a strong resemblance to Donahue's daily hour in the company of America's housewives. The resemblance is purely intentional.

Kilroy-Silk's show, not yet finally scheduled but likely to be from 9 to 10am, will involve a live discussion on topics of the moment between a panel of experts and the studio audience. Transmitted five days a week, it will give Kilroy-Silk even more television exposure, in terms of time, than his friend and Buckinghamshire neighbour, Terry Wogan.

"We intend to be lively and topical", says Kilroy-Silk, "and we shall not just be arguing about the news but taking issues a stage further and making news ourselves". Possible names for the programme include *It's Kilroy and Kilroy's Here* but the current favourite is the more prosaic *Day to Day*.

Anyone familiar with American television will detect the similarity to *The Phil Donahue Show*. "Donahue is an opinionated and colourful personality", says a source close to *Day to Day*, "and we make no apology for the fact that we intend to copy his style as closely as possible".

But Sara Ramsden, producer of *Day to Day*, says: "Robert will not be quite the star figure that Donahue is, but more a catalyst. Donahue is very opinionated and we do not envisage Robert having quite that role. But he will not always be the impartial BBC presenter".

The gestation of *Day to Day* goes back long before Kilroy-Silk decided there was more to life than fighting the Militant Tendency. The Donahue programme was seen by several top BBC men, not least Michael Grade, during trips to the United States and they were determined to bring the format to Britain.

The maturing of plans for *Daytime*, an attempt to present a more dynamic schedule during the traditionally fallow hours of the morning and afternoon, presented the opportunity. But the success of the format depended heavily on the presenter and the search was mounted for a British Donahue.



Housewives' choice: Phil Donahue, right, the American inspiration for British things to come in the shape of Robert Kilroy-Silk, above

Millions of women see Phil Donahue about as often as they see their husbands: once a day for an hour. Now Robert Kilroy-Silk, the Labour MP, aims to do on British daytime TV what Donahue does in America. Paul Vallely and Peter Waymark report

In the end, the matter was settled very quickly. At the beginning of July, Kilroy-Silk mentioned to a friend that he was giving up politics. Word got through to the BBC. Kilroy-Silk was offered the job and he accepted it almost immediately. Physically, Donahue resembles not so much Kilroy-Silk as another Briton, the artist, David Hockney. He has the same mop of grey-blond hair and the same ingenious round spectacles. Only the air of gentle abstraction is missing, but intellectual hesitancy is not something American television cherishes.

Though Donahue has long been among America's leading chat

show hosts, he has been at the job for almost 20 years and has 18 Emmy awards, he is now considered at the height of his drawing powers.

Last week his syndicated show, which is seen on 215 television stations throughout the United States, Canada and Australia, was moved from 10am to 4pm as part of a ratings battle between NBC, his major outlet, and its rival networks.

The unimpressed stranger might think that neither is prime viewing time. But that would be missing the point. Donahue is the housewives' choice, a Wogan without the jokes, who has built his career on teasing out the

human interest factor from the issues of the day and offering them in a palatable coffee-time format.

The staff on *The Phil Donahue Show* have an elevated view of their purpose. "We take the major issues - East/West relations, drugs, AIDS - and present them in an intelligent and accessible manner", one of his backroom people said loftily.

"Well, yes, they do cover East/West relations, but in the manner of *The Housewives of Illinois* Confront the Housewives of Kiev", says Peter Boyer, a television critic of *The New York Times*. "They also do things like

How to Live with a Transsexual Husband. It's not exactly the sort of programme that the leaders of governments rush to their screens to see. But it is a great success with the women at home. Donahue schmoozes with them. He elevates and flatters them."

Donahue takes exception to that sort of description. When one reporter asked him recently if he had reservations about doing a programme which merely pandered to housewives, he was animated in his response. "The phrase is sexist and bespeaks a prejudice about housewives."

"Housewives are people with curfers who sit under hairdriers and read movie magazines about

whether Burt will marry Lonnie. This is a very narrow stereotype. If there's anything our programme has demonstrated, it's that women want to hear a lot more than daytime television gives them."

Donahue is strong on exism. He is a reformed male chauvinist and indeed has made something of a career out of the conversion. As befis a one-time star boy at Our Lady of Angels parish in Cleveland, Ohio, he repeats his mea culpa loudly and often.

"I was handed from mother to wife in my first marriage. If you wanted to be my slave, I was going to let you. I was raised that way," he is fond of telling interviewers. Given the chance, he would like to

bring up the five children of that first marriage again and differently. "I would work harder to be as demonstrably loving with the boys as I was with my daughter."

Now aged 50, he has left behind his first wife, just as he left the television station in Dayton, Ohio, where his show was first recorded and broadcast. It is now taped in New York where he lives with his second wife Marlo Thomas, a glamorous American television and Broadway star.

Donahue has developed the reputation, undoubtedly to Alan Alda's chagrin, as "America's most famous, sensitive, liberated man". His technique as an interviewer is confrontational. He sets carefully-chosen antagonists against one another, surrounded by a largely female audience.

Sometimes the strategy is all in the planning, as on the occasion when his guests were the former wives of a famous US politician and publisher who had gone through messy cases and since led rather racy sex lives. "He knew that half the women in the audience would think they were sluts and would go for them with a lot of screaming and shrieking. All good television, of course, but you can only take that kind of thing in fairly small doses", says Peter Boyer.

"Is he serious about it? Well yes, but then vacuum cleaner salesmen are serious about that. But his sort of thing is not what you or I mean by serious."

Quite whether this is what Robert Kilroy-Silk would mean by serious is also open to doubt.

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Kilroy-Silk tells the
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Militant in Liverpool
and their campaign to
oust him

The forgotten war

To most people, the public face of Sandy Gall is as an ITN newscaster. But he is equally a veteran war correspondent, having covered Vietnam, the Congo and Amin's Uganda. And recently he returned from a perilous two months dodging Russian patrols in Afghanistan in search of the guerrilla leader Ahmed Shah Masud.

This was Gall's third trip to Afghanistan and his second filming of Masud. He has also recorded how the Pashtuns, the majority tribe, were faring. This time, he wanted to see how Masud was progressing. "I wanted to go back because it is a disgrace that the fighting is still not being reported properly. After all, it is their Vietnam", he says.

After waiting a month in Islamabad - "I hadn't realised the high passes were snow-bound and we physically couldn't get across" - Gall, along with an ex-army man and a cameraman, were smuggled over the Pakistani border with the help of the Mujahideen guerrillas. They were disguised in local shalwar (baggy trousers) and kamens (long shirts).

The trio entered Afghanistan in the north and spent two weeks trekking through Nuristan to the Panjsher Valley. They then went up to Takhar Province and northwards to Farkhar. For a country still at war, it was a remarkably incident-free trip. The team twice drove in a captured Russian jeep. Otherwise they rode or walked across mountainous terrain in uninterupted stints of 10 to 12 hours. Food was scarce and

Sandy Gall has just returned with unique battle footage after a perilous trip through occupied Afghanistan



War veteran: Sandy Gall

they survived on vast quantities of rice and tough goat - supplemented with their own supplies of bully beef, tinned sardines and tinned cheese.

When they found Masud in Farkhar, Gall discovered a remarkably able and well-organized commander who is still full of confidence. "He was half-way to becoming a Tito-type overall partisan leader and running the war very well in his own north-eastern constituency."

Masud was planning an attack on an Afghan army garrison of about 300 people,

just north of Farkhar. It was heavily defended, with machine-gun posts on the surrounding hills.

On August 17, Masud attacked with heavy weaponry, including machine-guns and devastating BM12 multi-rocket launchers. The cameraman went into the thick of the action, and the battle footage should be spectacular. Masud claimed a major victory, finally overrunning the last post in a new attack 36 hours later.

Gall feels that Masud is making headway, but that he is an exception. There have been huge changes since his last visit. "The balance of power has shifted in favour of the Soviets and Afghan government," he says. The Russians have improved their tactics in the past two years and adapted conventional tank-fighting methods to guerrilla warfare in the mountainous country, employing more special Spetnaz forces to carry out strike operations.

"In many areas the Mujahideen have been put under extreme pressure and some are very dispirited. But there is no suggestion they will give up, even if they are beaten to their knees."

However, Gall is wary of generalization, pointing out that covering and assessing the war is almost impossible. "You have to walk or go on horseback, so you only get to see one area. You rely on other people's reports." Still, he will attempt an assessment in a one-hour documentary on ITV in November - after considering the plight of the Afghan nation and profiling Masud.

Their "plight" he says, is that one-third of the population (5 million people) are refugees in Pakistan and Iran. There are also swarms of internal refugees living with relatives in shanty towns or caves in the hills.

"Guerrillas are a very elusive target, and so every day, Russians are carrying out atrocities and killing civilians. It is not reported because there is nobody there to do so."

In December it will be seven years since the Russians invaded. "It must rank as one of the great tragedies of the century, one of the most vicious wars and the biggest since the Second World War," says Gall. "It shows no sign of letting up."

Nor does Gall. The proceeds of the Boisdale Ball for Afghanistan on September 25 will be divided between Afghan Aid and the Sandy Gall Appeal, which supplies Afghans with artificial limbs.

Caroline Phillips

Yesterday's tomorrow

The prolific Isaac Asimov has written a unique analysis of the future predicted on old cigarette cards

Isaac Asimov remembers the future as if it were yesterday. Every working day Asimov must crouch at his computer terminal (surely nothing less?) and call up that part of the 23rd century in which he has been exploring the day before. Futurism is an industry, and Asimov a captain of it.

It is not a modern invention. Futurism, thrived for centuries without benefit of a label. Most of it was dooladen, as in the Book of Revelations: an apocalyptic encounter between Good and Evil, a world reduced to the smoke and dust of its own excess, a day of judgement, all mankind summoned before God to have the report card stamped, Must Do Better.

Some say this kind of futurism is gibberish: I prefer to wait and see.

Asimov prefers to write and see, and he has considerable vision. He joins a distinguished line, including thinkers like Wells, who brought us atomic bombs soon after the powers of the nucleus had been identified, and futurists like Verne, who took us to the bottom of the sea before submarines and into space before aircraft.

Verne, writing in the middle of the last century, was perhaps the first modern futurist, in that he extrapolated the rapid change already under way, courtesy of the steam engine, to show where it might lead.



Inspired artwork: Côté's 1899 "hydroplane" looks like the modern hovercraft

How interesting, then, to find that Asimov's latest book, *Futuredays*, as well as being fixed in the past, provides an opportunity to compare the imaginative intelligence of more or less contemporary men: Verne, who made his debut with *Five Days in a Balloon* in 1863, and Jean Marc Côté, a French commercial artist commissioned in 1899 to draw cigarette cards showing what he thought the world would be like in the year 2000.

Asimov's commentary on the cards is kind to Côté, and rightly so. The Frenchman was overly-cautious in his predictions, because, understandably enough, he assumed a more or less unchanged pace of development: so slow had it been until the 1800s that few people foresaw that progress over the next 100 years would be more like watching paint applied than watching it dry.

Given that Côté's predictions

lacked that time dimension, other elements of his perception are all the more remarkable. He foresaw the coming of air sea rescue, for instance, and it was only his technological innocence that had him depicting gliders, not helicopters, plucking men from the sea. And he brought us a "hydroplane", which Asimov reckons could be a blueprint for the seaplane but which also bears a remarkable resemblance to a crude form of hovercraft.

Travel in all its glorious variety seemed to have fascinated Côté as much as it did Verne. He correctly predicted the concept of airmail, introduced 20 years later in the US, but the practicality had him depicting a winged postman delivering the mail house-to-house.

The undersea world of Jean Marc Côté was one long party. Children played croquet on the seabed and he invented a novel version of

fishing in which you cast the line upwards from under the water to catch seagulls.

Not that catching seagulls to eat would be necessary in Côté's 2000, for - three years after the discovery of vitamins - he gave us a dinner party at which all the food was in pill form.

Some things in life, however possible, have a habit of being unpredictable - especially where money is concerned. *Futuredays* reaches us now because the cigarette cards themselves have only recently come to light, the reason being that the firm which commissioned them went bust just as Côté finished his work. One hopes the Parisian had the foresight to get paid in advance.

Peter Barnard

Futuredays by Isaac Asimov with illustrations by Jean Marc Côté, is published by Virgin at £8.99

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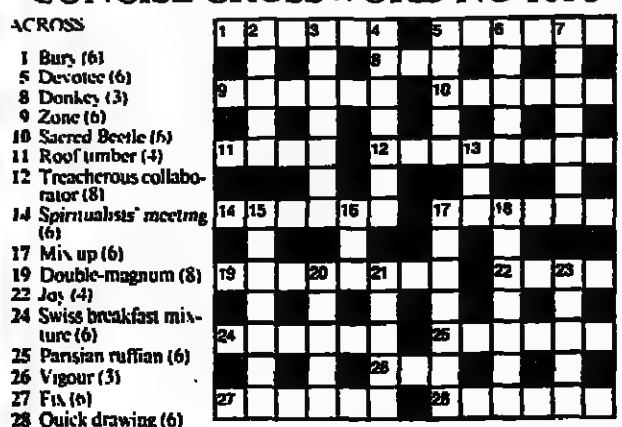
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Antique silk: late 19th century butterfly robe

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FRIDAY PAGE

Through the eye of a loving lens

Jacques-Henri Lartigue was the man who stopped time by ceaselessly collecting the present. Before his death last week, at the age of 92, his high-spirited photographs of bourgeois French life early this century had come to serve as a common memory of that time, and his pictures of women over a period of nearly 85 years provide a calendar of the changing styles of fashion and beauty in the 20th century.

Lartigue's admirers know his photographs of his first wife, Bibi, his second, Coco, and of many other women in his life. Florette, to whom he was married for 41 years, is thought of as a latecomer. But in his diaries — recently published in France — Lartigue's surviving widow is revealed as a startlingly erotic nymph who painted her hands blue as a prelude to making love. Here, within these pages, he loves her, rejects her, is unfaithful to her, questions what he's done to deserve such happiness, and finally gives in. Florette's sexuality tells us something about the difference between private and public experience, private and public women.

During the war, Lartigue noted: "Between Florette and Martine Carol, both so pretty, perfumed. One is all done up to please me. The other to please others, all the others. Theatre actress — future movie star maybe — is her charm, her flirtatiousness calculated to get the desired result, or will the desired result come because she is the way she is?"

Lartigue and Florette divided their life between an apartment in Paris and a house in Opio, in the South of France. The apartment is almost bare, for 35 years it served as a studio and storage room, and now that the products of Lartigue's obsession are carefully guarded by the state, the studio is being used for lunches and the storage room contains only his collection of magazines and

The man who captured women talked to Joan Juliet Buck just before his death last week



Lartigue with Florette

autographed books. "We took the apartment," Lartigue told me earlier this year, "because it wasn't heated and had no elevator."

Today there's a lift wedged into the stairwell, but the place is still heated by a single wood-burning stove in the main room. Firewood is piled in the hall. There is a small blue kitchen where Florette and Lartigue ate lunch, while looking through magazines. In the bedroom are twin beds with a crucifix painted by Lartigue on the wall between them. "This place was very sophisticated and overdone," Lartigue said. "Florette thought it was hideous. But it was in the sun all day, and across the street is a boys' school where no one looks out of the windows, so I could walk around naked."

The table in the middle of the room is where they held their lunch parties. "Never

more than eight," says Florette. But those eight might well have been actor Alain Delon, actresses Mireille Darc, Charlotte Rampling and Nastassia Kinski, cartoonist Claire Bretécher, playwright Jean-Claude Carrière, and photographers Henri Cartier-Bresson and Jeanloup Sieff. In his diaries, Lartigue wrote of a lunch in 1979 at which one of the guests was the then president of France, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing. "Plates cleared by all guests, president included. Funny picture to take of him handing a plate to Florette for the washing up! When Valéry tells a story, you think of a rich man giving away coins out of his pocket. Among other things, he talks about the stories he tells himself as he's falling asleep, to cover the avalanches of reality that he receives during his waking life."

Lartigue was a national treasure, a monument to the way the French would like to see themselves. A bureau called *L'Association des Amis de Jacques-Henri Lartigue* is in charge of his collection of more than 250,000 photographs, his gift to the nation. He has permanent exhibition space at the Grand Palais, and a museum for his paintings is planned at L'Isle-Adam, near Paris.

Having taken the official portrait of Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, he became something of an official himself. He proudly carried the red ribbon of the Légion d'Honneur and a rosette, singling him out as a Commandeur des Arts et des Lettres, in the buttonhole of his best suits. In May the church square in Opio, the village in the South of France where he also lived, was renamed Place Jacques-Henri Lartigue, and in the same month, a sunning exhibition, containing his stereoscopic photographs opened in Paris.

Admirers of Lartigue's photographs have had difficulty in deciding how to place his painting. That is because in his painting he did not set



In camera: portrait of Renée Perle by Jacques-Henri Lartigue

out to record his world, but his response to it. According to the great man himself, the difference between painting and photography lay with the imponderables, painting obviously being much deeper. But he added that although he went out with Marlene Dietrich, he could never bring himself to take her picture: "She's had so many problems with photographers that I only dared do one or two sketches."

When pressed, he admitted that she was "very voluptuous, full of a dangerous charm."

In a diary entry dating from 1937 one learns how he felt: "Why the silence? Why no spark for telling it? To talk about her painted lips, her voice, to talk about this Hôtel

Lancaster where I'd walk in, distended with ease, and also tense? Not bothering her with pictures, saturated as she is with posing...?"

Lartigue said he found the truth "in the back of my head. Making my Paris friends jealous to see me go by with her, claiming the turbid desire to know her, which her films provoked in me, being as proud as if I'd won a tennis tournament."

"If Marlene had really loved me and if I had really loved her even for three minutes, I'd be nauseated to be talking like this. She leaves tomorrow and I'm almost happy. At night, when you take off your stiff dress shirt, you're free, even if

you no longer have the smell of the white gardenia that was slowly wilting in your buttonhole."

A friend of many years, the American photographer Ralph Bizon remarked just before Lartigue's death: "When you're looking through the album, every 10 pages there's a masterpiece. I asked Jack how he does it. 'Les bons yeux et le bon cœur', he said, and then he put his hands on his stomach and brought them out like this — up and out, palms held up — and said: 'You must have love'. It was like talking to Buddha. He had that love. You don't survive without it: you don't live that long with love."

© Joan Juliet Buck 1986

No, I did not marry a house

How the National Housewives Register is caught up in a domestic argument

Something of a rumpus has erupted within the 24,000-strong membership of the National Housewives Register. It seems that "housewife" has become a dirty word for younger NHR members who had seen the spray-can writing on the wall, particularly that which spells out the strident sentiment: "Don't call me a housewife: I'm not married to a house."

No lively-minded woman worth her salt (and the NHR styles itself as "a meeting point for the lively-minded woman") can remain impervious to such subversive slogans.

As Gillian Drake, national organizer of the NHR, explains: "Very few women are full-time housewives these days, and a lot of our newer, younger members feel that the word is an immense recruitment barrier. Instead of 'housewife' they now prefer to use expressions like 'household worker' or 'domestic manager'."

Despite a few reactionary NHR diehards who grumble, "oh, not that old chestnut again, let's stick to the name we've got", 27 new name suggestions have been collected from the organization's 1,200 groups and 180 affiliated overseas groups.

These have been whittled down to three: National Women's Register, Women's Forum and Women's Link. Drake emphasized that, in each new name suggested, "women" is not spelt 'wimmin'. "Definitely not. We are a non-pressure, non-political group and do not want to be confused with radical 'wimmin's' groups. Several of our overseas groups, for example, have been calling themselves Women-in-Touch. This has led to problems with people who thought they were lesbian organizations. Not that we're against lesbians. They would be made as welcome as everybody else."

She added that while most members favour a new name, there have been many requests that the initials remain unchanged. This recently prompted a newsletter poem from Merseyside member Philippa Collingwood who made a play on the initials with suggestions as diverse as Naughty Hedonistic Ravers to Need Hair Remover. Drake preferred Naturally Honest Rationalists.

The NHR was set up in 1966 after a newspaper article entitled "Squeezed in like sardines in suburbia", in which the writer berated the dreary lot of stay-at-home-wives. It has been mildly infected since by the fever of women's liberation. Mrs

Drake explained that "quite a few" feminists have joined along with career women and "party political types". NHR members are more conscious of women's rights than they were in the early days. They are also insistent, to the point of frenzy, that they do not meet to swap home hints, share knitting patterns, and discuss 50-ways-with-mince.

They are not amused at jokes, mostly from husbands, that NHR stands for Nattering Housewives' Register. Their reason for joining is summed up in a letter from Essex member Carol Cudger in the current newsletter, in which she writes: "Why did a wallflower like me join NHR? To gain confidence in airing my views, to broaden my horizons, to meet like-minded women, to overcome my painful shyness — in short to de-cabbage my brain!"

Most members, incidentally, dismissed with contempt a serious suggestion that the NHR name be changed to the Cabbage Club.

The organization has recently been under pressure from house-husbands eager to swell the ranks. Single-parent men raising children have found themselves unwelcome by Mothers and Toddlers groups, the Young Wives and the Women's



Institute but the NHR is essentially an all-women organization, an escape from home, and — not to put too fine a point on it — often an escape from domineering men, as Drake explained.

"We are not anti-men in any way, and we'd be delighted to advise them on how to set up male groups like ours, but basically we feel that if the NHR included men then the structure of our meetings would be altered."

And she identified a further worry. "People might start fancying each other. And we do not want to become a dating agency."

Val Hennessy

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At the fag end of my tether

My 14-year-old son smokes and my husband and I can do nothing about it. If your reaction to this is of the "well I certainly wouldn't let my 14-year-old get away with it" variety, I would have felt the same, less than a year ago. Last summer, when we first discovered that Paul had begun smoking, we did not consider it too serious and thought it yet another phase of adolescence.

It soon became obvious, however, from the number of matchboxes and empty cigarette packets found in his room, that he had passed beyond the occasional quick drag stage and was now smoking on a regular basis. His clothes (especially his school blazer) smelled of nicotine, and to disguise the tell-tale odour on his breath he took to cleaning his teeth at odd times during the day.

We recognized that Paul had a problem and naturally we talked to him about it. No amount of discussing, reasoning, arguing and yes, sometimes shouting, on our part would make him even try to break the habit. He could not (and still cannot) offer any good reason for giving up. He quite simply had started smoking, enjoyed it and now

FIRST PERSON

Valerie Reife

was unable to stop. It was difficult to believe that, only a year before, he had been so aware of the dangers that smoking posed to health that as part of a school art project he and another boy (now also a smoker) had devised an anti-smoking game.

Our next step was to stop giving him pocket money and to pay his paper round earnings directly into his bank account, as he admitted that he used this money to buy cigarettes. At 14, he measures nearly 6 feet, and can easily pass for 16, the age at which he may legally buy and be served with cigarettes.

I visited his school and was told that he had already been discovered smoking on several occasions, and had been warned that the next time his parents would be notified. After a talk with the school deputy head, he again promised to try and give up, but we now find ourselves in the same situation, with the all-too-familiar smell of stale tobacco about his person — easily

detected in a house where he is the only smoker.

What can we do? In all other aspects, our son is a normal, lively teenager who enjoys family life, but who has reached the stage where he needs to be given the opportunity to share a social life with his own friends. Must we prevent him from attending any or all of the activities he enjoys — band, Scouts, the occasional disco — because someone will offer him a cigarette which he hasn't the will-power or the inclination to refuse?

As it is, any money we hand out for entrance fees or refreshments (always below the price of a packet of 10 cigarettes) is accompanied by the worry that it will not be used for its intended purpose.

We are powerless to prevent him buying cigarettes at 10p a time (for whatever the going rate) and I am becoming tired of trying to outwit him as he continues to find ways of obtaining his drug — for his smoking must now be an addiction. He is more careful now about leaving cigarette boxes and stubs lying around his room, but he can do nothing to hide a rather persistent cough he seems to have developed...

Dust to dust



The household vacuum cleaner might not be the machine of hygiene we all think it is. Indeed, a doctor from the Pacific Island of Guam suggests that it could spread food poisoning. In a letter to *The Lancet*, Dr Robert Haddock describes how the incidence of salmonella poisoning has soared in Guam over the past 12 years. In 1973 there were only 11 cases per 100,000 of the population, but by 1985 the annual figure was 181 per 100,000.

Tests to see if the local food was responsible drew a blank, not unexpectedly because almost everything is imported from the United States. Dr Haddock turned his attention to the environment and found salmonella in four out of nine vacuum cleaner contents sampled in the homes where an infant had food poisoning. This was despite the fact that other areas of the home, such as the sink, cutting-board or refrigerator were free of the bacteria.

Vacuum cleaners are good collectors of salmonella, says Dr Haddock, and he fears that they might be good distributors too.

MEDICAL BRIEFING

deformities were far more pronounced than is normally seen with people with this condition.

Instead, they suggest that Joseph Merrick suffered from Proteus syndrome. This has been only recently described and is named after the Greek god Proteus (the polymorphous). It is probably inherited, and is characterized by progressive over-growth of many tissues in the body.

The doctors, who have seen a case recently in their department, say the resulting deformities (enlarged head, thickened skin and elongation of the bones) are much more akin to those suffered by Joseph Merrick than problems associated with neurofibromatosis.

Pushing Iron.

Anaemia is responsible at least in part for the developmental delay so often seen in children from underprivileged areas of the Britain. A course of iron could help greatly, say doctors from the Sorrento Maternity Hospital in Birmingham. Dr Maureen Ankett and her colleagues found that 26 per cent of children aged between 17 and 19 months screened in central Birmingham were anaemic.

In a controlled clinical trial involving 100 of these children, they showed that children given an iron mixture for two months, and in whom haemoglobin levels improved, put on more weight and developed mentally at a faster rate than those who were not.

Writing in *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, the doctors say that, while iron deficiency anaemia is not the only factor in slower development, it is certainly one which can easily be identified by blood tests and treated.

"In our opinion a programme is needed to hunt out and treat iron deficiency in toddlers. The current child health services do not achieve this, although the incorporation of a haemoglobin screening test into the child health surveillance programme would not be difficult."

"The logistics of providing a few pennyworth of iron against those of repairing social disadvantage do not bear comparison."

TV lifelines



A campaign to improve public knowledge of emergency first aid will be launched at the end of the month. "Save A Life", which has the backing of the Health Education Council, Department of Health, Royal Society of Medicine and many other charitable bodies will include six BBC programmes on emergency care.

Leaflets will accompany the programmes (which go out on Sunday evenings from October 12) and the organizers hope to persuade 70,000 people to attend a two-hour training course on first aid. The course will be backed by a booklet.

A survey conducted by the BBC in June showed that 97 per cent of the public felt it was important to know about emergency aid, while 84 per cent said they would watch a television series on the subject.

Just over half the people interviewed claimed to have learned some first aid although most had done so by reading a booklet or leaflet. More than two-thirds of those who claimed to know something about first aid said they had put their knowledge to use.

But the survey also revealed gaps in that knowledge which the campaign hopes to correct. When asked, for example, what they would do with a bleeding arm, 45 per cent said they would apply a tourniquet above the wound. The correct course is to apply pressure to the wound and raise the arm.

Stress sensitive

Experiments by doctors at the London Hospital Medical College have confirmed suspicions that stress affects the way our bowels function and that, accordingly, people who suffer from irritable bowel syndrome (IBS) are especially sensitive to stress.

Using pressure sensors in the gut, studies show that IBS sufferers develop abnormal, irregular contractions of the gut when they are under stress. Dr David Wingate told the Eighth World Congress of Gastroenterology, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, last week: "This irregular contraction occurred in some patients even before stress happened; three or four patients only had them at rest. Some of the subjects had symptoms of IBS, predominantly pain, and when they had them, this irregular activity was present."

Lorraine Fraser

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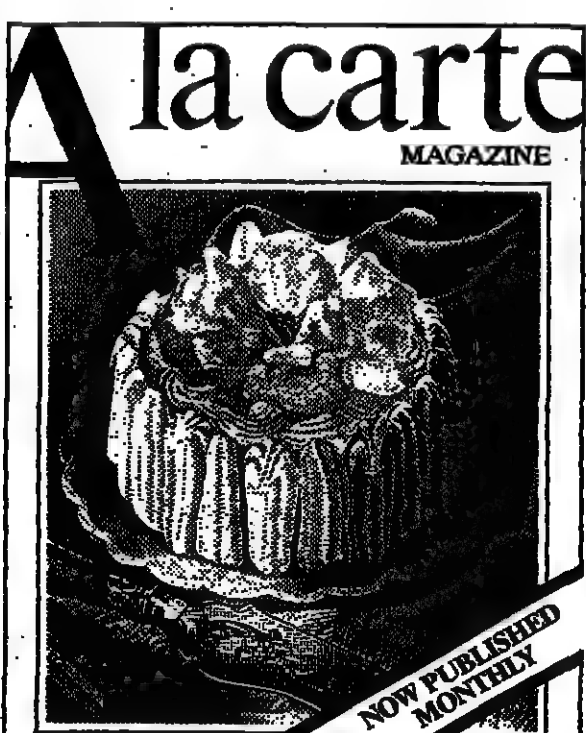
Merrick modified

The Elephant Man, so sensitively immortalized by John Hurt in David Lynch's film of the same name, didn't suffer from neurofibromatosis after all, according to a paper just published in the British Medical Journal. Leicester-born Joseph Carey Merrick was a normal baby but developed growth deformities as he grew older and in 1884, when he was 22 years old, his crippled body was presented to the Pathological Society of London by Sir Frederick Treves.

No one could come up with a diagnosis at the time, but in 1909 it was suggested that Joseph Merrick had neurofibromatosis. This has since been widely accepted.

Now two Canadian paediatricians have looked again at the descriptions of his case and at plaster-casts of his deformities and have disputed the idea.

They say that Joseph Merrick lacked the classic sign of neurofibromatosis, the well-defined skin lesions known as café au lait spots, and that his



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THE TIMES DIARY

Trawling for trouble?

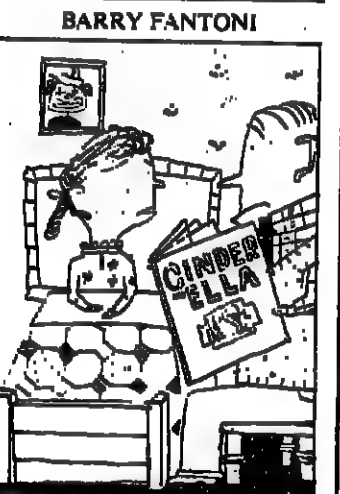
Iceland is about to rub salt into old wounds at Grimsby, one of the world's biggest fishing ports until the Cod War 10 years ago. For the first time since that conflict, the Icelanders are launching a cheeky campaign to get the people of Grimsby to buy their cod. Their minister of commerce, Matthías Bjarnason, brings a delegation of fish exporters over from Reykjavik next Tuesday to meet local councillors and businessmen at a reception in Grimsby, chaired by TV personality Magnus Magnusson. "The Cod War and all the bitterness was over a long time ago," an Icelandic embassy spokesman tells me. Down by Grimsby's denuded docks, some think otherwise.

Con brio

An international music competition in Geneva dissolved into discord when 85 world-class clarinetists took to banner-waving demonstrations over the judging. They had expected to appear before a distinguished nine-man jury of musicians, but because there were so many they first had to appear before a panel of three, two of whom did not play the clarinet. Worse, they were asked to perform only half a Mozart concerto, rather than the work in full, and finally were whittled down to a shortlist of 12 instead of the usual 48. Outraged British clarinetist Nicholas Cox protested to the organizers, who summoned the security guards. They tried to manhandle him out of the hall, but he resisted heroically and the police were called.

Different hue

"This man is a disgrace to his colour," says the *Mirror* headline. "Insidious racist stereotyping," replies the *Guardian* leader writer. "Pompous, priggish and prudish," retorts the *Mirror*, for whom the *Guardian* is "part written by Trotskyists for Social Democrats and part by Social Democrats for Trotskyists". It is not often that High Left and Low Left get the chance for an authentic fraternal embrace. They have really made the most of the Bristol Rastafarian's wish that a white policeman will die of a heart attack.



BARRY FANTONI
"I know she marries the prince, get to the bit where she gets a new hair style"

Enoch's ears

Enoch Powell tells me that he is becoming hard of hearing. With his usual exactitude, he explains that, strictly speaking, what changes is not hearing, but the brain's ability to distinguish between different groups of sounds. Fortunately, he can still hear everything that goes on in the House — or perhaps not so fortunately, since so many parliamentary exchanges these days would be better left unheard.

Time span

The East London River Crossing inquiry yesterday became the longest ever into a road scheme. Environmental and residential pressure groups objecting not to the bridge, between Newham and Greenwich, but to the proposed motorway which will run through houses and an ancient woodland have made the going tough for the Department of Transport. The inquiry started last September and by tomorrow will have sat for 144 days, overtaking a Leeds bypass inquiry three years ago. Barrister Nigel Macdonald, the DOT's leading counsel in both cases, has a lot more work ahead, since the inquiry is likely to continue until Christmas.

Home truth

All those Norwegians who demonstrated against Mrs Thatcher and her stand on sanctions against South Africa last week might care to take a look at their own country's record. The Amsterdam-based Shipping Research Bureau reports that of the 83 tankers which delivered crude oil to South Africa last year, 46 were Norwegian-owned.

All of a piece

Nicholas Baker need not go naked into next month's Tory conference chamber after all. The Conservative MP for North Dorset, who, as I reported on Tuesday, lost a number of suits at a dry-cleaner which had suspended operations, has been reunited with them, thanks to a Westminster Council trading enforcement officer, David Weedon. "I wasn't looking forward to starting the next parliamentary session threadbare," Baker confessed.

PHS

Shut out this Trojan horse

by Alun Chalfont

Unless its Nato partners persuade it to take urgent action, Denmark next month will hand Moscow a significant coup in its campaign of disinformation and destabilization against the West. Preparations are well in hand by the Soviet-controlled World Peace Council to hold a "world congress of Peace" in Copenhagen. The meeting, if it is allowed to take place, will be the WPC's first in a Nato country since 1950, when it made an abortive attempt to set up shop in Sheffield.

Then, as now, the organizers denied that the WPC was a communist front organization. But, as Clement Attlee, who was then prime minister, pointed out: "Communist activities generally are camouflaged — in this country they can usually get a few respectable but misguided people to provide the sheep's clothing... we are not willing to throw wide our doors to those who seek to come here to subvert our institutions."

The British government therefore refused entry visas to about 200 would-be delegates, including 80 from the Soviet Union. After a frustrated start in Sheffield, the congress moved to Warsaw, from where it could issue its ritual denunciations of the West in more congenial surroundings.

The World Peace Council lies at the heart of an interlocking net-

work of 14 major international Soviet fronts, 72 lesser ones and more than 140 national "peace" committees which, in the words of E.P. Thompson, a vigorous campaigner for European nuclear disarmament, "have never throughout their whole 30-year existence flattered an eyelash against any action of Soviet militarism."

It was founded in Paris as the Parisians of Peace and held its first world congress there in April, 1949 — the very month in which Nato was established. After the Sheffield fiasco, the WPC was expelled first from Paris, where it had been accused of "fifth column activities", and then Vienna. After the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia in 1968 it decided to confine its set-piece congresses to East European capitals. Only now is a renewed foray being made into a Nato country, under the guise of a contribution to the International Year of Peace, one of those bizarre celebrations which the United Nations often favours as a substitute for effective international action.

Denmark has been the focus for the Soviet "peace" offensive at least since 1981 when Vladimir Merkulov, a Soviet embassy official, was caught channelling

KGB funds for "nuclear-free zone" advertisements to the Co-operation Committee for Peace and Security (SAP). This is the Danish arm of the WPC and is the official convening body for the Copenhagen congress.

The international preparatory committee of 21 contains at least 15 people who are members either of the WPC or the Communist Party, or both. Its titular head is the 90-year-old Hermod Lannung, who is also being run as a candidate for the Nobel Peace Prize in an attempt to repeat the Soviet triumph last October, when, to the astonishment of Nato governments, the prize was awarded to the co-chairmen of International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War, another organization promoted and supported by the Kremlin "peace" machine.

There are signs that the people of Denmark have woken up to what is going on. On August 17 the daily *Jyllands-Posten* reported that Lannung had been named (in a protest to the Nobel Institute) as one of the few wartime MPs who chose to belong to the German-Danish Association, set up after the Nazi occupation in 1940. Lannung's involvement was fully documented in 1947, but until

now his wartime activities have been overshadowed by his subsequent chairmanship of the Danish-Soviet Friendship Society.

Lannung's attempts to vouch for the integrity of the forthcoming congress — which shows every sign of gross stage-management — have failed to secure the participation of the Social Democratic party, its spokesman, Lasse Budtz MP, has declared: "There is an overwhelming majority of communists on the committee which is preparing the congress... The WPC is, as is well known, directed from Moscow, and in our work we wish to put pressure on both sides in the arms race."

Inger Staal, a leading Danish campaigner against nuclear weapons, has also discovered that "all the international preparatory meetings are and will be controlled by the Soviet Union... it is the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs which is holding the Congress."

But it is not enough for Danes to protest against this insolent attempt to use a Nato capital as a base for the dissemination of anti-Western propaganda. Poul Schlüter, the Danish prime minister must be persuaded by his friends and allies to deal with this Soviet Trojan horse as decisively as Attlee did in 1950.

Lord Chalfont is chairman of the United Kingdom Committee for the Free World.

Karan Thapar weighs Benazir Bhutto's chances as political battle resumes

Round two: Zia plays into her hands



confident that Benazir Bhutto's bubble would burst. Then came the fasting month of Ramadan, the enforced lull before the promised storm. The battle to follow was to be the thrilling one. It was, in fact, a damp squib. General Zia retained support of the army, big business, the clergy and most of the bureaucracy. Even his civilian politicians, who may chafe at his undiluted authority, preferred him to Miss Bhutto. Of course, he does not have her mass popular support, but he does not need it either. He is in power. Benazir Bhutto, on the other hand, is dependent on what the Pakistani people can do for her.

That is as far as the story has developed. But henceforth, time and events are running against General Zia. When he arrested Miss Bhutto his government cast off its democratic clothing. Simultaneously, the regime indicated its fear of her support. When they released her on the eve of her appearance in court, they merely underlined their anxieties. Consequently, they have established her as the only credible alternative to themselves. From their standpoint, ignoring her would have been wiser. Now each time they act against her they will only add to her stature.

In future, even the demands of

the general's regime could work in Miss Bhutto's favour. He is committed to elections in 1990 with permission for all the political parties to participate. If he wishes to maintain his credibility he will have to stand by this. But if the events last month achieved anything, it was to ensure that, given the opportunity some time in the future, the Pakistani people will vote for Miss Bhutto. General Zia has elevated her to the popular symbol of democracy.

Indeed, there could be a yet more critical factor operating on her side. In August, as previously in 1983, the protests against the continuation of military rule emerged principally in Sind, and were supported by developments in Baluchistan and the North West Frontier. On both occasions it was the cool response of Punjab, the dominant Pakistani province, which ensured their failure. That not only kept General Zia and his army in power, but had two further effects. It reinforced the intimate and intricate relationship between Punjab and the 70 per cent Punjabi army, while exacerbating the growing divide between the central province and the rest.

Under General Zia, a Punjabi and a soldier, those trends can only accelerate. It would need a Sindi or a Baluchi or a Pathan to come to power by a free and credible election to stem the rot. Of all Pakistan's federal-minded civilian politicians Miss Bhutto alone could achieve this. And, at least in part, she has General Zia to thank. In the months and years ahead her countrymen will increasingly realize that fact.

Of course that does not mean that Miss Bhutto's campaign, which resumes on Sunday, will succeed in forcing elections. Nor that she can merely sit back and wait until 1990. She has still to tackle the deep-seated fissures in her ranks, the lack of organization and the absence of clearcut policies. Most important of all, she has to find safe issues to rally her support. Without such periodic clarion calls the faithful might lose heart: three or four years is a long time under a wily dictator.

Yet what it does mean is that even in retreat after round one, Miss Bhutto has won General Zia on the defensive. That is why the defections from her ranks — though they may attract publicity — have not bled her party. She carries the Bhutto banner and now the mantle of martyrdom. And if she is prepared to fight, she may well ensure that yet another subcontinental soap opera ends with victory for the dynasty. That is why the story of her political battle as a guide to the Bard, suitable to be put out by ILEA.

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Labour in search of an Ulster line

Neil Kinnock has not, to put it mildly, given Northern Ireland a high priority on his inflammatory agenda which he has designed for the run-up to the next general election. But Northern Ireland has an unfortunate habit of springing unpleasant surprises on politicians who hope to keep it safely out of sight and mind.

Kinnock's staff are currently engaged in a feverish damage limitation exercise over the disclosure that a party frontbench spokesman, Stuart Bell, is to share a fringe platform at next month's Blackpool conference with one Tommy Carroll. Carroll is at the moment a councillor for Sinn Féin, the Provisional IRA's political wing; he has served a jail sentence for car bombing an electricity showroom in Armagh. Labour's leadership is, in private, furious that such a hostage has been so easily given to electoral fortune. In public, it claims that Bell will use the occasion to make clear the party's view on terrorism. Bell is from the party's right and is moreover tough-minded and humane; if he does keep the engagement, it may not turn out to be the propaganda coup to which Sinn Féin looks forward.

But such an outcome would not disguise the extent of Labour's problem on this front. As the Anglo-Irish agreement was being signed last year, Kinnock was establishing a Labour position which was fiercely critical of both

unionists and Sinn Féin. He condemned Enoch Powell's talk of trenchery as inflammatory and irresponsible, adding: "the he would treat Labour supporters of Sinn Féin in similar fashion."

This announcement does not seem to have had much effect and certainly does not seem to preclude platform-sharing. It would have brought a wry smile to the lips of Ken Livingstone, who had addressed a Labour conference fringe meeting on this very subject a few weeks before. He described events in Northern Ireland as "your basic liberation war" and said it was "obscene" to see people scuttling round the fringe of the Labour movement questioning Sinn Féin's socialist credentials.

The defenders of the party establishment view had, he said, experienced an inflammatory ride with each annual conference; the traditional view was being steadily eroded. Figures in the party hierarchy still complained about contacts with Sinn Féin. But Sinn Féin had been on the platform at a Euro-election campaign meeting he had attended; the party's senior spokesman, Peter Archer, had met Sinn Féin officials.

Labour suffers from a variant of the problem which faces all the democratic parties which have to compose a policy on Northern Ireland. Labour experiences the difficulty in an acute form only because of the historic connection between the left and the Irish nationalist movements.



Bell: sharing a platform with a convicted IRA bomber

At the last general election, 100,000 people voted for Sinn Féin — a substantial bloc vote for a party explicitly in favour of killing, which no party or government can entirely ignore. The sharp rise in Sinn Féin's electoral support, which began at the time of the prison hunger strikes in 1981, has turned out to have staying power.

Each mainland party responds to this dilemma in different ways. The government has contemplated proscribing Sinn Féin altogether — and may have to reopen the question again if the Hillsborough Agreement fails to shore up the Social Democratic and Labour Party. The Alliance leaves Sinn Féin alone. Labour's left-wing talk to Sinn Féin when they feel like it while the party leadership do so as infrequently as

possible, fearing each contact will cause an embarrassing fuss.

The left-wingers sympathetic to Sinn Féin tend to be articulate, and magnets for media attention. Less well-noticed are the Labour MPs from northern England and Strathclyde who depend on the votes of Protestant working class communities. The party's activists and MPs are broadly divided between those repelled by contact with Sinn Féin, those who advocate friendly contact to lead the IRA towards more peaceful paths, and a smaller number who see republican sympathies as a revolutionary vanguard.

In these circumstances, it is not surprising that the party's formal policy is mildly nationalist while fully supporting the government's defence of the Hillsborough Agreement in the Commons. During the past 18 months, an attempt has been made from the left of the parliamentary party to shift policy towards a more republican line. Earlier this year, the centre and right stalled this, leaving the party stance unchanged.

What is surprising about this week's row is that Bell was one of the people instrumental in keeping it that way. His choice of platform companion is more likely to reflect his party's prevailing confusion about parliamentary violence and its political parties than any forthcoming major change in policy.

George Brock

David Watt

Vote wrapped by Owen

David Owen's speech to the Social Democrats on Wednesday was one of the most important as well as one of the most accomplished he has made. It displayed some of his best qualities of seriousness and firmness of purpose and staked out the Alliance claim to the centre ground with unusual clarity and force. It also turned a dangerous political corner.

The SDP arrived in Harrogate in distinctly poor shape — divided and uncertain about its identity and sagging in the opinion polls. The row about nuclear weapons in the summer did a lot of damage, not so much because of the intrinsic importance of the issue but because it reopened all the old wounds. Relations with the Liberals, the split between the left and right of the party, Owen's high-handed personality and the personal tensions between the Gang of Four — all these issues, supposedly laid to rest for the next 18 months, were revived in a particularly acute form. The rank and file, demoralized and confused, feared that the party was drifting into a right-centre limbo, without a clear identity or purpose, a mere repository for disgruntled Tories or possibly no more than the vehicle for an Owen ego trip.

This frame of mind explains some of the disaffection to be observed at the beginning of the Harrogate conference. The old merger controversy was in full cry again. No doubt a total union with the Liberals had been postponed until after the next election, but wouldn't the Alliance regain some lost credibility and elan if only it had an "Alliance leader" in the run-up to the election?

The answer, from any rational person, is "certainly not". The reality — which the public is perfectly well able to comprehend — is that the question of an "Alliance leader" is an irrelevance. If the two parties perform exceptionally well and are able to form a government, then the leader of the party with the most seats (almost certainly David Steel) becomes prime minister. If they do slightly less well, then each David takes a portfolio in a coalition, presumably more or less on the same level. It is only if they make no new impact at all that a hassle will break out over a merger — a matter of interest to the parties and leaders themselves, but one to which everyone else will be then be pretty indifferent. To risk, for so little gain, a violent row at the present and abandon at this late stage the perfectly respectable line that the Alliance offers a reasonable demonstration of coalition in action would be preposterous. But the fact that the speeches of Roy Jenkins, and to a lesser extent Shirley Williams, were coded attempts to prepare the ground for this case, and the fact that they were so well received, showed how dangerous the situation had become.

An even more significant piece of writing on the wall was the genuinely spontaneous ovation

given to Dick Taverne when he introduced his tax proposals. The remarkable spectacle of this middle-class audience cheering to the echo a scheme which was calculated to hit their own pockets in order to relieve poverty says something about the SDP's present state of mind. The immediate point about the tax scheme, irrespective of its technical merits or its appeal to the country, is that it meets so many of the present doubts — it gives the party something distinctive to sell on the campaign trail. It lights the grey, rational mass of SDP policies with a spark of idealism, and it satisfies the left of centre that the party is not slipping into sub-Thatcherism. In endorsing it so loudly the conference was sending Owen a very clear message.

It seems that he has received it. I imagine he must have had considerable doubts about the plan. And any practical politician would inevitably share them. It is a risky business to propose radical tax reform at the best of times. To do so at a time of economic recession and in such a way as to penalize the hard core of your own support (in this case those earning between one and a half and two times the national average) looks foolhardy. It is doubtful in any case how many voters, except the poor themselves, really accept that genuine poverty exists in this country. People who claim to be poor are generally thought to be bad managers or scroungers, or getting by quite nicely on the black economy.

Why, then, has Owen bought and backed the package? For one thing there remains, contrary to all the stories, a strong idealistic strain in his own personality. For another, he probably judged that he had to. If he had disowned the scheme and stuck in his toes, as he did on the Polish issue, he would have been dangerously out of step with his followers and the mutterings about his leadership would have increased, along with pressure for new Alliance gimmicks before the election and immediate merger after it.

The most interesting motive, however, was displayed in his speech; he spotted the political possibilities of the idea and proceeded to give an impressive demonstration of how to exploit them. The picture of a tax scheme designed primarily to relieve poverty was subtly changed to a reform whose first objective is modernization. The primary aim now is to sweep away a system that is "unfair, inefficient and incomprehensible" and replace it with one that is primarily intended to increase prosperity and simplify matters for the taxpayer. The relief of poverty now becomes a bonus. Elaborated and sold in this way, as a similar package has been by the Reagan administration, the scheme could have a lot of appeal. The fact that it has also reunited the SDP and revived Owen's authority is not the least of its virtues.

moreover... Miles Kington

The seven ages of person

I was very interested to read about the book circulated by the Inner London Education Authority, *Jennie Lives with Eric and Martin*, about a girl who lives with two homosexual men who bring her up as their child. It sounds as if ILEA's mind is working along the same lines as mine. I have recently modernized Charles Lamb's famous *Essays of Elia* as *Essays of Ilea*, and I am now engaged on transcribing the same author's *Child's Tales* from *Shakespeare* as a guide to the Bard, suitable to be put out by ILEA.

I find that you do not really have to change Shakespeare's plots very much to bring them in line with modern thinking on sexism, racism, agism, etc. Here are a few to show you what I mean.

- *Othello* and *Iago* *Straighten Desdemona Out*. Othello and Iago are a perfectly matched pair; he is black and a guy, he is white and a guy. They get on very well indeed (Iago is the more sensitive of the two, as Othello likes dressing up in uniform and going off to the war) but unfortunately a girl called Desdemona tries to take Othello away from Iago. Well, that's flagrantly anti-gay, and when she is found dead in bed (from what looks suspiciously like a drugs overdose) one can't help feeling that all's well that ends well.

- *Dick's Bad Back*. Even when you're King Richard III of England, a congenital ailment may cause you depression, nervous breakdown, and it's at times like this that we need friendship and care — failing that, masses more money pumped into the National Health Service. This version of *Richard III* points out to children that it really isn't right, either, to make fun of people with disabilities. Especially if they have the power to have your head chopped off in the Tower.

- *Nothing for Hamlet to Do*. Even in a supposedly advanced country like Denmark, youth at all levels can become frustrated by unemployment. Young Hamlet is typical of thousands: a good education, brought up to have expectations, and then condemned to a life of idleness because the government simply won't put people before profits. No wonder young Hammy gets in with the wrong crowd, is mixed up

with a stabbing incident and sees his relationship with Ophelia go wrong. With a caring government, none of this need have happened. We must get the Tories out.

- *Macbeth Goes Round The Bend*. From the male point of view, *Macbeth* is a fairly bad and, let's face it, boring story of politics and big bad business. But told from Macbeth's wife's point of view it becomes a poignant story of the housewife shut up in the castle all day long without real responsibility or job prospects. How would you like it if you were every bit as able as Ms Macbeth but condemned to bring them up for Duncan and Banquo? No wonder she went round the twist.
- *Brutus and Cassius Gang Up on Julius*. When one man decides to take power into his hands, instead of following the democratic process, is it all right for the others to vote by a majority to kill him? To put the question in a context that children can really understand, the plot of *Julius Caesar* has been transferred to a local parent/teacher association in Bermondsey. The last act is replaced by a discussion between the audience and actors, after which we'll go down to the pub for a Militant membership drive.
- *Old Man Lear Gets a Rough Deal From His Daughters*. When you're old and not really able to look after yourself any more, our society tends to bundle folk off into homes and forget about them. But couldn't one of you look after Dad in his declining years? This play tells just one OAP's story, and implants a seed in every girl's heart. And boy's, of course.
- *Poor Old Shylock*. He is a Jewish businessman who has got a racist, fascist deal from the business community. She is a female barrister who has battled against all the male chauvinist attitudes of the filthy legal system. Do they meet in court and fall desperately in love, as two victims of injustice? Wait and see!
- *The Caliban Liberation Front Story*. A Caribbean island... a right-wing dictator... the people's leader, Caliban... the CIA agent, Ariel... it's a far story all right, but there's a new twist this time when US agents land in an attempt to burn down the island's opium crop.

سكان النهر



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MR HATTERSLEY'S RABBIT

Before the Labour Party's national executive approved its policy document for this year's party conference, Mr Roy Hattersley warned the shadow cabinet's strategy meeting that "committing the party to doing specific things at specific cost at specific times" would not improve its electoral prospects. His main target was Mr Michael Meacher, the shadow social services secretary. Mr Meacher had been promoting a plan which, apart from more pensions and child benefit, encompassed everything from a comprehensive new disability allowance to a restored death grant. Mr Hattersley won.

Yesterday, when Mr Hattersley gave the party's tax and social security policy a public outing, the disability benefit and most other benefit reforms were pushed back to the status of an agenda for action that is unlikely to be reached — except in canvassing on the voter's doorstep.

Instead, he offered the plain fare of traditional extra spending commitments: higher pensions and higher child benefit. Only the extension of the long-term rate of social security benefits, to those still unemployed after more than a year, remains in the first stage proposals. These are the proposals Labour claims can be financed by soaking only the top 5 per cent of earners.

The main object is to portray Labour's policy as practical and credible (and costless) to the overwhelming majority of taxpayers in contrast to the Social Democratic Party's

complex and thoroughgoing reform of the tax and social security system, which Dr Owen manfully tried to rescue from misunderstanding on Wednesday. The contrast is indeed instructive.

Dr Owen's comprehensive plan was estimated to have a gross annual cost of £4.3 billion, most of which would come from the reform of allowances and integration of employees' national insurance contributions into income tax. As a result, it appeared that some married couples with an income of £16,000 might lose from the reforms.

Labour's first stage appears to cost roughly the same and yet only those with a single income above £27,000 would suffer. And yet, tax rates at the old maximum of 83 per cent (98 per cent for investment income) will not return.

It is not clear exactly how or when Labour will phase out the married man's allowance — the proceeds presumably going to higher individual allowances — and abolish the upper earnings limit on national insurance contributions. Somehow, the sums do not appear to add up unless Mr Hattersley is looking for unrealistically high returns from capital taxes.

The greater contrast, however, is in the value for money of the two proposals. For its gross £4.3 billion, the SDP aims to achieve a full restructuring of benefits to give better and simpler support to more poor families in or out of work. It would cut swathes through the old social security bureaucracy and sepa-

rate means testing. The integrated tax and benefit system should also reduce that great disincentive, the poverty trap, to the minimum that can be achieved in a welfare state. And the SDP even appears to offer a higher child benefit to the needy because the benefit is taxable in the hands of families with two earners.

Labour's first stage proposals do none of these things. Yet they contain the same structural drawback: abolishing the married man's allowance without substituting the transferable allowance proposed by the Government to aid families where one spouse stays at home.

The poor value for money under Labour's plans compared to the SDP's is easily explained. Labour has emphasized universal benefits whereas the SDP, like the Government's less than ambitious reform, concentrates on targeting the help where it is needed.

The SDP has at least grasped the nettle that a comprehensive attack on poverty through the welfare system, rather than through enterprise, requires some contribution from those who are only modestly affluent. Labour is still trying to pretend that the poor can be relieved by the rich. That ought to help Dr Owen in his task. It must also invite the question that, if the rich have already been soaked to provide Labour's quick boost to universal benefits, who would pay for the rest of its burgeoning spending programme?

TOUCHÉ

The US State Department's decision to expel 25 named Soviet diplomats at the United Nations is bound to lower the already frigid temperature of superpower relations still further and push the promised Reagan-Gorbachev summit into the even more distant future. If this is what it was calculated to do as the next response to the case of Nicholas Daniloff, then it may be considered something of a diplomatic masterstroke from a strong-arm administration.

It is a measure to which the Kremlin has no direct response: the Soviet Union accommodates no international organization comparable to the United Nations. Its timing, just as the Soviet Foreign Minister arrived in New York, was likely to unnervingly the Soviet side to the maximum degree. And there is the option of raising the stakes higher. In March the US had insisted that the Soviet mission to the UN be reduced from 275 to 170. The 25 expulsions just announced leave another 80 to go.

Yet doubts remain about the coherence of either the American or the Soviet policy in the weeks running up to what looks increasingly like a phantom summit. Announcing the expulsions, the State Department spokesman insisted that they were not connected with the arrest in Moscow of Daniloff. They were, he said, merely the logical consequence of the Soviet Union's failure to reduce its UN staff earlier.

If that is true, and the

United States really wants the summit, then the timing of the announcement could scarcely have been less fortunate. If it is untrue, or merely a diplomatic half-truth, then the American side appears to have lost an opportunity to counter publicly the impression of weakness it created by agreeing to the simultaneous release from prison of Daniloff and the Soviet scientist, Zakharov.

Expulsions are a time-honoured way of expressing disapproval of another state's conduct. Their use would not have been inappropriate in this case, so why be reticent about the motive? If that reticence reflects the need of the administration simultaneously to placate hawks who want no compromise over Daniloff (and forget the summit), and those who hesitate before allowing the treatment of an individual, however unjust, to interfere with state-to-state relations, then it is time for a thorough assessment of priorities in Washington. Otherwise, the wires of US-Soviet relations threaten to become even more hopelessly tangled than they already are.

But the apparent incoherence of US policy in the wake of the Daniloff affair is as nothing compared with the conflicting signals emanating from the Kremlin. Moscow's response to President Reagan's personal intervention on behalf of Daniloff was to bring formal charges of spying against him. Mr Gorbachev meanwhile was eschewing all

public comment on the question, insisting instead that he was entirely in favour of the planned summit meeting — so long, that is, as it produced a result, in the form of an arms control agreement, that he could take back to Moscow.

Soviet officials and commentators have seemed uncertain from whom they should take their cue. There has been pre-summit optimism and pessimism in equal measure. But they all agree that responsibility for the final decision lies in Washington, by which they mean that the United States should capitulate — whether on Zakharov or on a nuclear test ban is not entirely clear.

Moscow is right to say that the solution to the present superpower impasse lies in Washington, but only because it is still Washington that holds the initiative. Zakharov is still technically under arrest (though that advantage was reduced somewhat when the Daniloff equation was conceded). The ceiling on Soviet UN diplomats still stands, and the arms control cards are all in US hands.

If the principle that the individual is as important as the collective is to be upheld, as it should be, then a modicum of movement on arms control might provide a more fruitful area for a summit-saving compromise than the case of Nicholas Daniloff. What the United States has to decide is whether a summit in present circumstances is worth even so modest a concession.

THE KINROSS DISASTER

To judge from the still sketchy accounts of the still sketchy accounts of the Kinross mining disaster in South Africa in which at least 182 miners died, there are grounds for at least suspecting that mismanagement, lax safety standards and inadequate training of miners and supervisors were among the causes of the tragedy. Given such suspicions (which were subsequently fostered by the secretive attitude of the Kinross mine management) and given that only 5 of the 182 miners killed were white, it would not have been surprising if many people had instantly drawn the conclusion that the dead were the victims of a racial callousness encouraged by apartheid.

Yet few people have, in fact, drawn large general conclusions about South Africa from the disaster. When lives are lost in a natural disaster which no-one intended, the normal human reaction is to forget political or other disputes and to empathise our common humanity. It seems in bad taste to seek political capital from 182 deaths.

Another may be that external critics have been guided by Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, the general secretary of South

Africa's National Union of Mineworkers, a black union legally recognised in 1983. Mr Ramaphosa has, indeed, been sharply critical. For the moment, however, his criticism has been directed at the company and the events which led up to the accident rather than at the surrounding social and political environment.

That emphasis is surely right — for the moment. The initial task of the judicial inquiry established by the South African government must be to discover exactly what happened at Kinross.

The underground fire seems to have been started when a welding accident set alight polyurethane foam lining which then gave off toxic gas. Why was a toxic and inflammable substance used as lining in such a confined space? Was it simple negligence? Or did cost enter into it? Or what?

It is reported that there was no fire extinguisher at the site of the welding operation? Was this because the company's safety rules were inadequate on this point?

It is likely, of course, that the inquiry's attempts to answer these specific questions will lead it to investigate wider

issues. At least 66 of the dead, for instance, are reported to be foreign workers from Lesotho and Mozambique. Are these migrant workers literate? If not, are special measures taken to ensure that they understand emergency safety precautions?

Then, job reservation in mining has broken down in practice (though white miners still earn about five times as much as blacks). This means that mining companies have an economic incentive to put blacks in supervisory positions. Have they given new black supervisors adequate training in health and safety measures?

The South African Chamber of Mines, finally, claims a greatly improved record of safety in recent years. According to its figures, fatality rates in gold mining, which takes place at extreme depths and at high temperatures, have dropped below 1.03 per thousand; compared to the US coal mining rate of 0.61 per thousand. But the Mineworkers dispute some of these figures.

Indeed, because the inquiry will be looking at the industry that underpins apartheid, it will tell us much about South Africa.

Wider issues of visa restrictions

From Mr R. K. D. Shah
Sir, Last it be thought that informed or responsible opinion within the ethnic communities of Britain is against immigration control then nothing could be further from the truth. Indeed the need for such control, albeit subject to proper safeguards, is widely recognized.

The question of visa restrictions for nationals of India and four other Asian and African countries is not, however, primarily about immigration. It raises certain wider or fundamental issues. For example, the right of people settled here to be visited by their kin and kin is likely to be seriously affected by the new measures, in as much as there are bound to be delays and frustrations experienced at British consular posts in those countries.

More importantly, there is also bound to be an adverse effect on the contribution, not readily appreciated, to our economy made by such visitors. Even "Third World" travellers have a tourist value in terms of expenditure on transportation, shopping, hotels and amenities, not to speak of other actual or potential benefits they bring to this country.

The use, in this connection, of such language as "thousands of Nigerians or Indians running amok on the streets in their anxiety to acquire a British visa" (Kate Finch's feature article, September 15) merely lends support to the suspicion that the Government is as much motivated by the latest racism which pervades all levels of our society as those who write off with contempt the numerous but welcome visitors to these shores from the poorer countries of the world.

Yours truly,
R. K. D. SHAH,
Wayne & Co. Solicitors,
5 Laings Corner,
London Road,
Mitcham, Surrey.
September 15.

From the Executive Secretary of the UK Council for Overseas Student Affairs
Sir, Not only will the introduction of visas for visitors from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Ghana and Nigeria affect tourists, and hence lead to a drop in tourist trade figures; it will also affect students coming to the UK from these countries for further and higher education. All this at a time when the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is keen to welcome overseas students. Surely a classic case of

British Library

From Mr A. R. A. Hobson
Sir, I sometimes wonder what Lord Thomas and the other eminent signatories of his letter (September 5) read in the British Library. Their experiences must be different from mine.

On September 4 I went there to consult 11 books for which I had booked tickets on a special visit the day before. Of the 11 I received eight. One had been missing and two replaced since 1970; two were stored at Woolwich and had not arrived. Of those I was given one lacked volume 2 and another volume 1. Another had the upper cover off and was tied together with tape.

Is this what Lord Thomas calls "service to scholars"? At least when all the holdings are together in one building one might hope that books would be delivered in less than 24 hours.

Academic boycott

From Mr J. G. Watson
Sir, Dr Conor Cruise O'Brien's welcome condemnation of the academic boycott of South African universities (September 6) is rather unfair in assuming that the Association of University Teachers is totally agreed on the boycott.

So widespread are differences of opinion that not only have many distinguished members considered resigning (and, regrettably, sometimes done so), but the Executive Committee — of which I am a member — commissioned the World University Service to produce a study of South African universities.

The report, *Divided Campus: Universities in South Africa*, published in May, throws a very

Drivers at risk

From Mr Pierre Tester
Sir, In answering the telephone in a car on the motorway can be classed as driving without due care and attention, may we please have some guidelines as to what else places a driver at risk?

How about smoking, dropping the burning end down the side of the seat, filling a pipe, drinking hot coffee, necking, cleaning your glasses, or having the stereo so loud you cannot hear the fire engine trying to get by?

There are, of course, other hazards, like helping your wife out of her fur coat, because the car is too hot, without removing her seat belt, dealing swiftly with a child who has car sickness, looking at a map because your wife said she knew the way like the back of her hand, but seemingly was wearing gloves or trying to dislodge an oversize Labrador from kicking the back of your neck.

I understand that I cannot use the hard shoulder except in an emergency. Do any of these qualify please?

Yours faithfully,
PIERRE TESTER,
Long Barn House,
Cowfold,
Horsham, West Sussex.

Clergy stipends over the top

From the Rev Mark L. Hill-Tout
Sir, I recently received notification of my stipend increase for 1987. I am dismayed. The increase is £600, from £7,400 to £8,000, a rise of 8.2 per cent. With this notification came also a warning that clergy may soon be crossing the "higher threshold" for tax purposes.

The Central Stipend Authority, a branch of the Church Commissioners, is raising the level of stipends in the Church of England to such a degree as to seriously jeopardise the credibility and integrity of parish clergy amongst the poor, the unemployed, the young, the old and the disadvantaged.

The reason for the increase above the rate of inflation is, we are told, to compensate for the decline in stipends in the early 1970s. In my view, over the last three or four years this decline has been well halted by the benefits of the lump sum payments on retirement, the substantial financial help with buying a home, together with a great increase in pensions, which in their own way compensate for that earlier decline in the value of stipends.

That is not the end, for we also enjoy well-nigh absolute security of job and a free house (which has been variously valued at equivalent to £3,000 — £5,000 extra per annum), in addition to our annually increasing stipend.

My diocese pays its clergy at nearly the lowest level in the Church of England. I am glad about this as far as it goes, but most dioceses are paying their clergy far more. To do so will not attract men with the right motivation, nor will these increases help to alleviate the considerable quota problems for our laity.

Your readers will be aware that on average 86 per cent of the quota (money calculated on income or potential sent direct to the diocese from every parish) is directly related to the clergy stipend and housing. If the CSA pays these unnecessarily high stipends, we are adding directly to the financial burdens of our parishioners which are considerable in many inner city parishes, as well as rural parishes.

I would appeal to the CSA to reduce the rate of increase in 1987 to at most the rate of inflation. We don't need these rises (and I say that as one with two children and a mortgage), and these rises are not in the interests of our pastoral care of, and integrity amongst, our parishioners. If they continue we shall be in danger of losing touch with many of the people of our parishes.

Yours faithfully,
MARK L. HILL-TOUT,
The Rectory,
Horsted Keynes,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.
September 10.

Hospital resources

From Mrs Joyce Radon
Sir, The population of West Lambeth is served at St Thomas' Hospital by five times as many doctors as are those of districts such as Dewsbury and Mid-Staffordshire (article, September 5). The published statistics, reinforced by my own contacts with fellow patients at the hospital, paint a very different picture.

I would suggest that two of the five doctors are serving patients referred from all over the country for complex high technology and time-consuming treatment and a further two or more are serving people from outside the district who choose St Thomas' because it is a teaching hospital of international repute, commuters for whom it is convenient to their place of work, local patients who have moved away, and people from adjacent areas (in particular Battersea in Wandsworth) whose own hospital (St George's) is unfamiliar and difficult to reach by public transport.

With doctors insisting that St Thomas' is not a district hospital and administrators insisting that its resources should be calculated by reference to the population of West Lambeth, the people of West Lambeth are left inadequately served.

Limiting St Thomas' resources to the amount justified by the number of people living in West Lambeth involves depriving the patients from outside the district of the opportunity to choose St Thomas', or alternatively depriving the people of West Lambeth of an adequate health service. Diverting resources from popular hospitals to less well-funded areas does not have the effect of diverting the patients.

Yours faithfully,
JOYCE RADON,
Flat 2,
188 Kennington Lane, SE11.

Heads or tails

From Mr Cyril Ray
Sir, The answer to Mr Simon Gray's question (September 13) on which side of his Bath Oliver he should spread the butter when, at the end of the meal, he comes to the cheese is — neither.

No one who cares about the taste and the texture of cheese allows his appreciation of them to be confused by the taste and the texture of butter. This, indeed, is why the Bath Oliver — best of all biscuits for cheese — (save the American Bremner Wafer) since the lamented demise of the Romany — is made austere dry.

Yours faithfully,
CYRIL RAY,
Brooks',
St James's Street, SW1.

In limbo

From Mr P. Becken
Sir, A colleague of mine rang the London Borough of Harrow last week to enquire the address of the London Residuary Body, and was put through to the mortuary department.

ON THIS DAY

SEPTEMBER 19 1938

During 1938 and 1939 a series of articles appeared on the Court Page in which the activities of a comfortable, upper middle-class family were mused over by the lady of the household — Mrs Miniver. The author was Mrs Struther (1901-63), later Mrs A. K. Placcek. The articles acquired considerable popularity; post-war generations might find them rather cloying. An "Oscar" winning film was made, and even the critics of Mrs Miniver had to admit that she was beautiful as played by Greer Garson.

BACK TO LONDON

THE MINIVERS' AUTUMN FLIT

FROM A CORRESPONDENT
"Where on earth is Vin?" asked Mrs. Miniver. The car was standing at the door of Starlings, ready to take them back to London. The luggage-boot was filled to overflowing with the well-known paraphernalia of a nursery fit: even Clem's genius for stacking had been unable to make it look like anything but a cubist cornucopia. Clem was in the driving seat; Nannie was at the back, with Toby on her knee and Judy sitting close up beside her to make room for Vin. But Vin himself was nowhere to be seen.

"Wretched boy," said Clem amiably. "I told him what time we were starting."

"He went off on his bike directly after breakfast," said Judy. "To fetch his knife. He left it over at Round Mill yesterday when he was fishing."

"He may have come in through the garden door," said his mother. "Mrs. Downce, you might go and see if he's in the kitchen, and I'll try the schoolroom."

The schoolroom was empty, but around it, like a line of salt wrack, lay unmistakable traces of the children. As they grew older, the footman of the house, without diminishing in quantity, changed a little in character. There were fewer stones and pieces of wood, though Toby still collected flints with holes through them and sticks which had been spirally grooved by honeyeaters. On the other hand there were now things like empty cartridge-cases (spent by Vin on rabbits and retrieved by Toby for use in a vast chess-like game which he played, by himself, on the square of the schoolroom linoleum); and on the edge of the window-sill lay some bright shreds of wool, silk, and tinsel, some broken feathers, and the clump-marks of a small vice.

Of Judy the traces were less conspicuous: her activities were mostly personal and required little gear. But just occasionally she too was bitten with the boys' mania for making things, as when that happened she got it badly. A few days ago, someone had dashed in the "Children's Hour" how to make a reed-pipe out of a jointed wheat-stalk, or, failing that, out of a drinking straw with a blob of sealing wax at one end. The farm immediately round Starlings were all pasture and hops; so she begged a packet of straws from Mrs. Downce and used up every one of them. To make the vibrating tongue was fairly easy, but to space the six finger-holes so as to get a full-scale proved to be a matter of trial and error, exasperating to herself and exasperating to her hearers. She cut her left hand and burnt her right one. The floor became littered with small square chips of straw; there was one now, lurking under the table. As it happened, that day had been for the grown-ups one of great tension and anxiety, with the threat of war hanging like a leaden nimbus in the air. And Mrs. Miniver had drawn a curious comfort from watching Judy's small intent face, bent hour after hour over her delicate and absorbing task. International tensions might flame or cool; the turning kaleidoscope of time might throw mankind's little coloured scraps of belief into new patterns, new ideologies; but the length of the vibrating column of air which, in a tube of a given calibre, would produce C natural — that was one of the fixed things.

She went back to the car, and at the same moment Vin appeared from the direction of the bicycle-shed, very much out of breath.

"Sorry," he said shortly, and scrambled into place beside Judy. Mrs. Miniver got in too. The car moved off through winding lanes towards the arterial road. It was certainly a heartbreaking day on which to leave the country. It was warm and yet fresh; blinding, one could have mistaken it for a morning in early May; but this kind of day, she reflected, has a more poignant loveliness in autumn than in spring, because it is a receding footfall, a waning moon. From the row of fires in front of the hop-pickers' huts the smoke rose blue and pungent. The hops were nearly all in, the strappers' bins lay tumbled and tangled on the ground. One campaign at least, thought Mrs. Miniver, was over without bloodshed.

Pool business

From Mr C. M. Fogg
Sir, On a recent business visit to Kuala Lumpur I took a rest by the hotel swimming pool.

A Japanese businessman in the pool swam over to the side where I was sitting and started a conversation. As soon as we reached some points of mutual interest he reached into a pocket of his swimming trunks and passed me a waterproof business card.

What chance have we got against such competition in the export marketing arena?

Yours faithfully,
C. M. FOGG,
Arrow Projects Consultants Ltd,
7 Dorset Road, SW19,
September 12.

مكتبة الأمل

THE ARTS

Television
Graphic equality

Watching those dewy-eyed funny men Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones, one may fall about laughing only to rise with the sense one has been pushed. The punch packed by *Alas Smith and Jones* (BBC2) depends on a mixture of smut, halitosis, rampant bad taste and the facial expressions of an electrified donkey. Not for the programme's 22 script-writers that subtle domestic interplay between a Morecombe and a Wise, a Corbett and a Barker.

What prevents these two from a genuine comic relationship is the knowledge that they are ever so superior to the characters they sketch. Both play parts which involve crossing a mongoloid throwback with a know-all — a hybrid in vigorous need of a mate if it is to survive another series.

The funniest sequences involved the pair of them presenting a new hi-fi system to their salesmen and trying to explain the proliferation of buttons. Asked what a graphic equalizer actually did, Mel Smith gave the glorious improvisation that in the event of the graphics falling behind at any time it would enable them to catch up and be equal.

This obfuscating jargon was the target of Michael Blackstad's timely programme *When They Don't Tell You When They Sell You a Computer* (Channel 4), which must have been appreciated by anyone who has had to wade through a word-processor manual. Apart from verbal shorthand, the use of expressions like flip-flop toggle switches, bit-mapped wimps and banded mouse controllers is to help computer salesmen identify suckers who do not have a clue what they are on about. Having looked the small businessman (amusingly played by Stephen Fry) into the system he first thought of, these men — who invariably have the blue faces of meat which has hung too long — are then likely to abandon him.

The second half dropped off a bit and Blackstad missed an opportunity to get some amusing mileage out of a high-street salesman. But there were trenchant contributions from Eddie Shah — whose own computer was plugged into the air-conditioning unit with devastating effect — and a man who had turned his £400,000 computer into a cocktail cabinet because four years on, such being the pace of change, it was only worth £50.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Cinema: new releases in London

Adrift in the urban dreamworld

Trouble in Mind (15)
Cannon Oxford Street

Captive (18)
Cannon Haymarket

Dust (18)
ICA

F/X — Murder by Illusion (15)
Leicester Square Theatre

Poltergeist II: The Other Side (15)
Plaza

Fresh out of gaol after 2,842 days, a former cop called Hawk (Kris Kristofferson) returns to Rain City in search of a woman and a job. With a marvellous economy, the images almost as monosyllabic as the words, Alan Rudolph's sparkling new, smokily familiar, film *Trouble in Mind* begins like a Runyonesque version of a Jim Thompson novel, peopled with such names as Coop, Solo, Nate and Spike.

One look at the former cop, gaunt and angular of hat, beard and body, and we can guess at least the first meaning of Rudolph's title. It ought, of course, to be a story about the blues — and so it is, in mood and colour. But Rudolph's blues, evolved through seven films in as many years, cover a wide spectrum: their musical equivalent is as much in Marianne Faithfull's parched agony as in Jimmy Witherspoon's plaintive resilience, and the film's soundtrack obligingly gives us both.

Rain City, compiled mostly from Seattle, is on the borders of an absurd future and a derelict past. Its atmosphere heavy with embers. Soldiers parade the streets recruiting for imminent conflict, while protesters at some unknown crisis are violently dispersed. At first just odd, slightly off-key, the hints of a parodied alternate universe gradually become dominant, unsettlingly fashioned from punk, fifties rock, and Forties noir.

Adrift in this milieu, Hawk uses what vestigial influence he can to rescue a young innocent (Lori Singer) and to knock some sense into her hoodlum partner (Keith Carradine) who pursues a career of escalating crime in increasingly bizarre make-up. The troubles build to an orgy of slapstick slaughter in the mansion of underworld boss Hilly Blue (played straight, with evident delight, by the female impersonator Divine), after which Hawk has nowhere to go but the sunset.

Complete with hard-boiled one-liners that could have been lifted from Kristofferson ballads or spoken by Wayne or Bogart or Claire Trevor ("Gotta be nice to your friends — without 'em you're a perfect stranger"), and delivered with light mockery by a cast you can take seriously or not, it is fun: either way, *Trouble in Mind* makes easy listening.

There is also more than a touch of the fantasy thriller about *Captive*, which represents the debut as director of the film critic Paul Mayersberg. It is a kind of fairy-tale derived from the Patty Hearst story: the daughter (Irina Brook) of a multi-millionaire (Oliver Reed) is kidnapped by a trio of young idealists — a princess rescued from an ivory tower — and brainwashed into sharing their contempt for a life of luxury. She is persuaded to discard all previous guilts and allegiances (the darling of her father, she is convinced she caused her mother's death), and becomes a gunslinging member of the gang until the police eventually catch up with them.

As with his script for *Eureka* which, after telling one story, calmly embarks on another, Mayersberg then proceeds to explore his heroine's rehabilitation. A princess awakened (she has even pricked herself on a rose at one point), she begins to recognize that she has been everybody's property but her own and, tired of playing Madam Butterfly, reaches towards the dawn of independence.

This process of enlightenment can be retrospectively seen as the purpose of Mayersberg's other screenplay: both *Eureka* and *Man Who Fell to Earth* deal similarly with the irrelevance of incalculable wealth except as a context for liberation. And Mayersberg directs with enough elegance to transcend the slight clumsiness of his attractive but inexperienced young cast (by contrast, Oliver Reed's restrained performance is a welcome strength). The film is a challenge, but a rewarding one.

The theme of paternal tyranny reappears, in the guise of Trevor Howard, in this week's third un-



At home in Rain City: Kris Kristofferson and Lori Singer in *Trouble in Mind*

conventional movie, *Dust*, adapted by the Belgian actress Marion Hansel from J.M. Coetzee's novel *In the Heart of the Country*. Living on a remote South African farm, father uses daughter (Jane Birkin) like a menial and fails to notice the unstable consequences of his neglect until she reaches for a shotgun. Coetzee's text, a mesmerizing combination of Deleuze and Malraux, is like an apocalyptic testament, every paragraph numbered. Instead of quoting it wholesale, which must have been a temptation, Hansel does an admirable job of converting words to images, the rough farm landscape serving as both stimulus and mirror to the girl's growing derangement.

The result, perhaps inevitably, is a little arid, a forced parable with feminist sympathies, eager to imply more than it can show. But Jane Birkin's despairing fury has an impressive intensity, while Trevor Howard, mostly required just to grunt, conveys an infinite cruelty with the glint of an eye. If the magic of Coetzee's vocabulary is largely missing, the predicament of his heroine, a less-than-resourceful Crusoe, remains under Hansel's direction a compelling enough journey to the interior.

Back in the city, things continue to be not quite what they seem in Robert Mandel's *F/X — Murder by Illusion*, a far-fetched but highly enjoyable yarn about a special-effects expert (Bryan Brown) hired to stage an assassination for the New York police. As soon as he has peppered his victim with convincing squibs he becomes a hunted man, discovering to his horror that the bloodshed is real. Cheerfully stealing ideas from a

cavalcade of crime dramas like *Point Blank* and *The Gauntlet*, the film submits us to a spectacular car-chase before the special effects really come into their own with the final holocaust. I suspect that it will be remembered more for Brian Dennehy, an actor of massive and genial authority (here playing the work-weary cop) than for the comparatively lightweight Bryan Brown.

Considerably less memorable are the remaining releases in a crowded week. The problem with *Poltergeist II: The Other Side* is the complicated plot that has to justify a fresh assault on the luckless Freeling family four years after *Poltergeist I*. Rather sensibly they have left the neighbourhood and do not watch television any more, but the spirit world in the form of Julian Beck as a doorstep evangelist is still waiting to pounce. Clouds of wraiths and ectoplasm get busy from the opening sequences, splendidly compiled by Richard Edlund (*Ghostbusters*) and H.R. Giger (*Alien*), and there are at least two major nightmares. But the director Brian Gibson does give the unavoidable impression of being in the thick of forces he is powerless to control.

Philip Strick

● Franco Zeffirelli will be at the National Film Theatre on Sunday, when he will be interviewed about his work in the cinema and the opera house, with special reference to *Otello*, which opens in London next week. The discussion starts at 4.15 p.m.; later in the evening the NFT will screen Zeffirelli's film of *Traviata*.

Concerts

CBSO/Rattle
Town Hall,
Birmingham

I had intended to devote a large part of this notice to Marius Constant's symphonic synopsis of Debussy's *Pelléas et Mélisande*, which was being played for the first time in this country, and which was certainly not without interest. However, there are more urgent matters at hand, evoked by a performance of Beethoven's Choral Symphony so utterly candid it was a benediction.

We live in a time when the experience of Beethoven, and perhaps most particularly of Beethoven, seems to be increasingly ironized, the music removed from us by routine playing or routine listening, by the rhetoric of personality and showmanship, or by performances using period style to place works within cute historical quotes. Some of these things are inevitable, some no doubt necessary, but what is most necessary of all, for the humanity of any future musical culture, is that Beethoven should continue sometimes to be felt and understood directly. This was one of those rare occasions when the spark struck.

I am at a loss to know how Simon Rattle achieved this

immediacy, this sense of the music speaking for itself, searching and finding its own tempo (even through some extreme rallentandos), its own phrasing, even its own colouring from the strings. No doubt the secret lies somewhat in the shared sensibility of conductor and orchestra, their working so closely in harness (and how well Rattle's stay-put policy justifies itself). But the triumph is also a personal one, dependent on Rattle's ability to be desperately and personally involved, and yet to be so on behalf of something much larger than himself.

What we heard was not an "interpretation" of the work: it was far too simple for that — too open, even too obvious — if at the same time constantly and joyously surprising. "Interpretation" would imply a secondary experience, whereas this had the flat authority of something primary; and as proof I can only record the thrill of the entry of the baritone soloist, a role marvellously held by Willard White, or the exhilaration of a perfect coordination between instrumental and vocal rhythms in the choral episodes, or again the absolute unimportance of some slips among the wind in the slow movement.

The music, the continuing comprehension of this music, was all that was important.

Paul Griffiths

**Lionel Rogg/
LMP/Glover**
Festival Hall

One Festival Hall tradition which has survived unchanged through all the innovations of the LCC, the GLC and the South Bank Board is the weekly organ recital: Wednesdays at 5.55. They tried, 5.45 a few years ago, but the organ bluffs soon put a stop to that sort of radical nonsense. This season's series is called "The King of Instruments": luckily the programmes are a bit more imaginative than the title.

This opening recital by the Swiss organist Lionel Rogg ranged from the French baroque mannerisms of Louis Marchand to the heroic fusts of Roger's Fantasia on "Hallelujah Gott zu loben". Rogg's own Two Studies (entitled "Le Canon improbable" and "Les Tétrachordes insistant") offered just the right sort of witty antidote to the stormier fare, and his transcription of Liszt's *Saint-François de Paule Marchant sur les flots* had a suitably lurid, Wurlitzer-like quality.

But what has happened to his once unmatchable Bach? That most tragic of chorale preludes, "O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde gross", was given a swift and heartless execution, its heavily chromatic harmonies swept mechanically into neat little rubatos.

Later in the evening the London Mozart Players opened their season which, under Jane Glover's supervision, also shows welcome expansionist tendencies. Here, for instance, Robert Saxton's 1983 orchestral work *The Ring of Eternity* slipped in quite comfortably (to my ears anyway) amid the Haydn and Mozart. Saxton's evocation of Henry Vaughan's poetry did not quite sparkle as one remembered: some woodwind detail seemed too recessed here, and there was little sense of an inexorable culmination. But the playing was as highly competent as in the classical offerings. In Mozart's Piano Concerto in C, K.467, Rafael Orozco was a solid soloist.

Richard Morrison

Ameling/Jansen
Wigmore Hall

For Goethe, music alone raised and ennobled all it expressed. For Hugo Wolf, music was a vampire, grabbing its poetic prey and sucking out the last drop of blood for every word. Underneath the implications, Elly Ameling set out to meet not only Goethe and Wolf together, but Goethe and just about every composer who had ennobled or bled his art while it made for an exciting evening.

Apart from one rather primly delivered speech on the subject of Goethe's childhood, Mignon, Miss Ameling resisted the temptation to do a thoroughgoing Song-makings Almanack job on her audience. Comparisons and contrasts were lightly, deftly and, above all, musically made: by juxtaposing Beethoven's weighty "Wonne der Wehmüt" (a vampire, if ever there was one) with Mozart's childlike "Veilchen" by setting the silliness of Wolf's "Anknebens Crab", so beautifully phrased, against the fulsome ecstasy of Mendelssohn's song with ample words, "Die Liebende schreibt".

It was three of Goethe's hauntingly strange female characters, Faust's Gretchen, Klärchen from *Eppur* and Mignon from *Wilhelm Meister*, who set the fiercest challenge to the artistry of both Ameling and her accompanist Rudolf Jansen. For Schubert's Gretchen at the spinning-wheel, Ameling gasped in breathless grief and recoiled from the imagined kiss's sting just at the point where strain was beginning to tell.

For Klärchen, there was Liszt's overblown "Freudvoll und leidvoll" and Wolf's coy "Die Spröde", both teased nicely into submission. And for Mignon, a most careful selection of moods and responses: Schumann's "Heiss mich nicht reden", Schubert's (and, as an encore, Tchaikovsky's) "Now, but the lonely heart", and finally Wolf's "Kennst du das Land", partnered with superb dramatic insight by Mr Jansen.

Hilary Finch

Dance

The gains of growing professionalism

Michael Clark
Sadler's Wells

My goodness, Michael Clark is getting respectable in his old age! Now all of 24, his first season at Sadler's Wells coincides with the announcement of a Michael Clark Foundation intended to help talented young dancers and to provide much-needed rehearsal studios for independent dance companies.

It would be unfair to ascribe this to a new-found seriousness, since he has always been entirely purposeful about his work. However his latest creation does find Clark showing a lot more respect towards his talent than he did a year ago.

In some ways, *Far* *Escape in Hell* is a develop-

ment of the boldly theatrical style he was then playing with, but he has ruthlessly cut out the less successful elements: the amateurish singing and most of the talking. There is still a good deal of the outrageousness which has proved a canny selling-point for his shows. But he gets this aspect over in the first of the three short acts, which also provides quite a few jokes about policemen.

The middle act is largely given over to a lament for dead singers, John Lennon, Mama Cass, Judy Garland (I think) and others, performed to a collage by Jeffrey Hinton, during which the action often illustrates comically the quoted songs, although I am not quite sure what the dancers dressed as a fish and a lawn

as big a swindle as it was for the Victorians. True, if you were a lace-maker in the 1840s you might go blind, and to try to combine work and motherhood was asking for the moon. On the other hand, you were producing something of lasting beauty; unlike today's workers in the rag trade who can spend their lives produc-

ing rubbish and finally get thrown on the scrap-heap as rubbish themselves.

The play presents this message in simultaneous action on a divided stage (by John McMurray): on one side, a cottage with three girls stitching acorns and periwinkles into a rousseau for the squire's daughter; on the other, a sweat-shop with a group of multi-ethnic ladies machining away at the behest of a permanently frantic proprietor.

Scenes are brief, and loaded with echoes and parallels — not least the fact that each group contains one lagging member marked down as a sacrificial victim. Among the lace-makers it is Alice who is losing her sight; in the sweat-shop it is old Lil, once a favourite of the boss's father, but now unable to keep up the pace. The drawback of this scheme is that, while stitching and dialogue are easily combined, it is hard for actresses to make themselves heard above the din of three electric sewing machines: with the result that work in the sweat-shop is always grinding to a halt.

I suspect that it is in

revert to normal human form. Clark's interest in dance for its own sake, clear in his earliest works and underlying even the silliness and excess of some interim pieces, runs strongly through this new production, growing richer and more inventive at each stage of the action. His basis, as always, is in the virtuoso possibilities of classical ballet, but used with complete freedom and individuality.

In spite of losing two of his past stalwarts, Clark has managed to double the size of his company with no loss of quality. He, merciful as ever, and the earnestly impassioned and continually developing Ellen van Schuylenburch, set standards for the others to emulate.

John Percival

overcoming this obstacle that Miss Gee has developed a plot and character that unbalances the play. Work stops because of Lil, who will do anything to delay the moment of truth with her machine. She then goes on to secrete her botched work in the pile of a super-efficient West colleague — thus provoking a tremendous fight when her treachery is discovered.

After building up such an enmity, Miss Gee abruptly cancels it when Lil is downgraded to non-skilled work which involves turning her enemy, Carrie, into a sympathetic ally. For all Brenda Bruce's desperate ferocity as Lil, the more she takes over central position the less interesting she becomes.

It is also a pity that she overshadows the quite beautifully written scenes of the three lace-makers. I shall remember John Dove's production for the performances of Jane Horrocks, Victoria Burton and Gayle Runciman, who can chill your blood with lines like "I've years of seeing left in me".

Irving Wardle



Michael Clark: a talent for increasing self-respect



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مكتبة الأمل

Australia brews change for beerage

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

When the Elders IXL £1.4 billion deal to buy Britain's sixth largest brewer, Courage, from Hanson Trust was announced yesterday, Mr Brian Glover at the Campaign for Real Ale grumbled that it was just a case of "boozical chairs" among big combines, which would make little difference to the pub drinker.

But that is not necessarily true, because the entry of Mr John Elliott, the tough Australian chairman of Melbourne-based Elders, into the British market inevitably signals a fierce battle among brands, especially in the lager sector, which is the only big growth area in a gradually declining beer market.

The IXL man - IXL is typical Australian for "I excel" - although Elders acquired it during the series of mergers which created Elders IXL - also has plans for selling an equity slice to tenants of Courage's 3,676 tied houses.

The idea is to replicate the Australian experience of motivating tenants to greater commercial success while also raising cash for the parent brewer.

But otherwise the Elders decision to buy Courage rather than bid anew for Allied-Lyons, Britain's second biggest brewer, means the biggest shake-up for more than a decade in that relatively comfortable industrial grouping often called the "beverage."

In the last few weeks most brewers have been raising prices by 2p a pint or more, which should help to maintain their healthy profit levels.

The beer barons were last in turmoil when Grand Metropolitan, under the late Sir Maxwell Joseph, acquired Trumans in 1971 and Watney Mann the following year.

Grand Met has an immediate involvement with the Elders move to Britain as a base for international expansion. Since 1981 Watney has been brewing and distributing the draught version of Foster's lager, Elders' best known product and also Australia's best-selling lager, in Britain. In beer market.

Australian and US brewers are well placed to buy

1984 there followed a similar exclusive licence for canned Foster's.

Both licensing deals run to 1996 although Elders and Grand Met are soon expected to discuss the deal. A possible upshot, given the likely promotional battles to be launched by an aggressive Elders, is that production and distribution will be shared before the mid-1990s.

Watney is familiar with this pattern; it did a similar deal with Carlsberg, the Danish company which has a brewery in Northampton.

THE UK BEER MARKET

Analysis of market share (figures expressed as % of share)

Company	*Pubs	Lager	Ales	Total
Bass	7,404	24	19	21
Allied	6,807	15	13.5	14
Whitbread	7,000	13.5	11.5	12.5
Grand Metropolitan ¹	6,400	13	11	12
Scottish & Newcastle-Courage ²	1,446	9	11	10
Guinness ²	5,131	9	9	9
	NIL	4	6	5

* Managed and tenanted
Includes sales of Carlsberg and Holsten
Includes sales of Harp and Kronenbourg

Source: Kleinwort Greaveson

Speculation is rife on whether the Elders entry into the British market will mean that more foreign competition will come in as the big brewers increasingly adopt global strategies.

Courage could just as easily have been the vehicle into the British market for Anheuser-Busch, America's biggest brewer whose Budweiser is being produced here by Watney.

And the same could be said for Mr Alan Bond's Australia-based Bond Corporation, whose Castlemaine XXXX, produced in Britain by Allied-Lyons, is also making big inroads into the lager market behind Foster's.

Either of these companies, and possibly Hanson Trust too as it accumulates more cash from its sales of parts of the old Imperial Group, might look to mounting bids for

Courage has about 9 per cent of the beer market with such brands as Courage Best, John Smith's, and Hofmeister and Kronenbourg 1664 lagers. Lager accounts for about 40 per cent of its beer sales, rather lower than that of Bass (about 48 per cent), Whitbread (47 per cent) and Allied (46 per cent). But Scottish & Newcastle is lower at about 38 per cent.

To build up its lager portfolio, Courage has a licensing deal to market Miller Lite in Britain for that American brewer. Elders' strength in lager will be a big factor in increasing the Courage thrust in the lager sector, which now accounts for about 41 per cent of beer sales, but is expected to

Stage is set for fierce battles among the lagers

total about half the beer market by the end of the decade.

Courage has been lowering its unit costs by closing down old breweries and bringing in new, more efficient units. It is one of the lower-cost brewers in the industry.

It closed breweries at Plymouth and Newark and rationalized depots. A £5 million brewhouse came on stream at the John Smith's Tadcaster brewery last November and a £16 million development programme at

the Bristol brewery is due for completion early next year.

If Courage's portfolio of lager brands is boosted by Elders to match the strong Courageale brands, the operation would be in a good position should the Monopolies Commission's investigation of the brewing industry lead to a dismantling of the tied house system. Those brewers with strong brands are likely to benefit most if they lose direct control of pub outlets for their products.

There is also the question of how the Commission would view Elders' scheme of offering an equity stake to tenants of the tied pubs. The idea surfaced in Elders' bid for Allied and is expected to be looked at again for Courage.

Elders told the Commission it expected joint ownership to result in greater commitment of publicans to their business, an increased level of service to customers and a spur to competition through the introduction of entrepreneurs at the retail level.

Tenants could finance their stake through cash flow and at the same time be protected against excessive rent rises. Allied's tenants were doubtful about the prospects of part ownership and the same problem is likely to arise at Courage.

But it could well mean that once the dust has settled, pubs as well as the brewing industry, will not be the same again when the big Australian gets into its stride in Britain.

Montagu makes mark in Norway

From Tony Samstag, Oslo

It is common knowledge that Norway has had a large surplus of money for years, at least until the collapse in oil prices took some of the wind out of its sails.

And it is no secret that progressive deregulation of what had been a tightly controlled market has been the best banking news in this part of the world for at least as many years.

It may come as a surprise, however, that only one British bank has taken advantage of the unprecedented opportunity to break into the lucrative Norwegian market.

Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank now owned by Midland, is one of seven foreign banks - the others comprise three French, three American - to have set up shop in Norway since the previous Conservative administration gave its approval.

Montagu celebrates the first anniversary of its wholly-owned Norwegian subsidiary this month, describing the move as one element in the "establishment of a pan-Nordic merchant banking operation spanning Sweden, Norway and Finland."

In addition to a long-standing presence in Stockholm, Montagu has been granted a Finnish banking licence and hopes to open a wholly-owned subsidiary in Helsinki by the end of the year.

The strategy, according to Mr Morten Aas, managing director of Samuel Montagu A/S in Oslo, was the brainchild of Mr Steffen Gadd, a Swede, and formerly chief executive officer of the Scandinavian Bank in London, who joined Montagu for a brief period.

Mr Aas said: "He brought with him the idea of a Nordic presence, and recruited knowledgeable people."

He added: "The Nordic countries were seen to have a need for somebody who could come in and play the independent mediator in areas like merchant acquisitions, where traditionally deals have tended to be done on a friendship basis without a great deal of attention to minority shareholders."

Norway, in particular, was attractive as a well-developed industrial society, wealthy, stable - and with a long history of strong trade relations with Britain.

Since Montagu opened 12 months ago, opportunities for deficit financing have increased substantially.

Norway has been forced by dwindling oil revenues to borrow internationally for the first time in many years.

However, in the early months the bank has concentrated on traditional advisory services rather than lending.

Mexico's drive to reduce debt comes under fire

From Alan Robinson, Mexico City

The Mexican government has completed 16 debt-equity swap projects, worth \$200 million (£135 million), in an attempt to lighten its \$100 billion foreign debt burden.

However, there are indications that debt-equity swapping will not be the panacea the authorities had hoped.

The drive to transform debt into new foreign investment takes two basic forms.

The first option is that a foreign creditor bank takes over stock in a state-owned company in lieu of debt.

Alternatively, the foreign bank can accept "debt certificates" issued by the Mexican government. These can then be sold to current or prospective investors at, for example, 60 cents to the dollar.

Then, the government undertakes to pay the investor between 80 and 90 cents to the dollar in Mexican pesos over 13 years, provided the money is invested or kept in Mexico.

To sweeten the pot, the government has eliminated the old 49 per cent foreign investment limit for small and medium companies, allowing up to 100 per cent foreign ownership.

And according to the Foreign Investment Commission, "further concessions are in the pipeline".

The government has announced it will take over the foreign debts of 47 state-owned companies, "some of which will be susceptible to the debt-equity swapping mechanisms".

These include the country's largest steel companies, Altos Hornos de Mexico, Sideresa and the recently closed Fundidora Monterrey, as well as the national airline, Aeromexico, and seven of the nationalized banks.

Sources close to the Foreign Investment Commission unofficially revealed that Japa-

nese investors want to increase their stake in the giant Sideresa steel complex.

Nissan is also talking to Citibank about acquiring enough debt certificates to control its Daizun Combi plant, which is due to open next year.

Given the fact that the private sector alone owes about \$18 billion to foreign and domestic banks, the government sees a vast potential in debt-equity swapping.

But independent economists are warning that the strategy "could perpetuate our debt obligations without substantially diminishing the total debt, while allowing foreign capital to push out Mexican investors".

Critics point out that Mexico did not receive a single dollar in credits during the first half of this year, but its external debt grew by more than \$1 billion because of a steady devaluation of the peso.

According to Mr Edgar Ortiz, president of the North American and Caribbean Countries' Economic and Finance Association, Mexico paid a debt servicing bill of \$119 billion, of which \$385 million was paid between 1977 and 1986, "but the total foreign debt did not go down, it increased".

Mr Ortiz says the debt servicing bill agreed with the International Monetary Fund for this year and next comes to \$20.2 billion.

This, says Mr Ortiz, "will barely reduce the total debt, because \$17.2 billion of it will be interest payments".

Mr Ortiz and economic experts of the National University conclude that constant peso devaluation will eliminate the ground gained both through amortization payments and debt-equity swapping in the foreseeable future.

Morgan Grenfell names chairman for Scotland

Morgan Grenfell (Scotland): Mr David Douglas-Horne has become chairman.

Sun Life Assurance Society: Lord Bancroft and Mr Richard Zamboni are now vice-chairmen.

The Littlewoods Organisation: Mr A McCann joins as deputy managing director on October 1. Mr W Huntley becomes managing director of the chain store division on the same day.

Unigate: Mr Maurice Eastaff is now on the board. Motherwell Bridge Holdings: Mr J Murphy takes charge of Motherwell Bridge Construction Group and Mr W Tanner heads Motherwell Bridge Engineering Group.

M W Marshall & Company: Mr M Warren has become chief executive, succeeding Mr M Kelly.

CAL Futures: Mr Patrick Folkes is marketing director. Clarkson Puckle (East Anglia): Mr A Barracough takes over as managing director.

F H Tomkins: Mr John Starbuck becomes managing director of Twiflex and Mr Peter Graham managing director of Firth Cleveland Engineering.

Frogmore Estates: Mr Philip G Davis is appointed managing director, succeeding Mr William J Baker.

Levin Contract Furniture: Mr Peter Barham is sales and marketing director.



Lord Bancroft

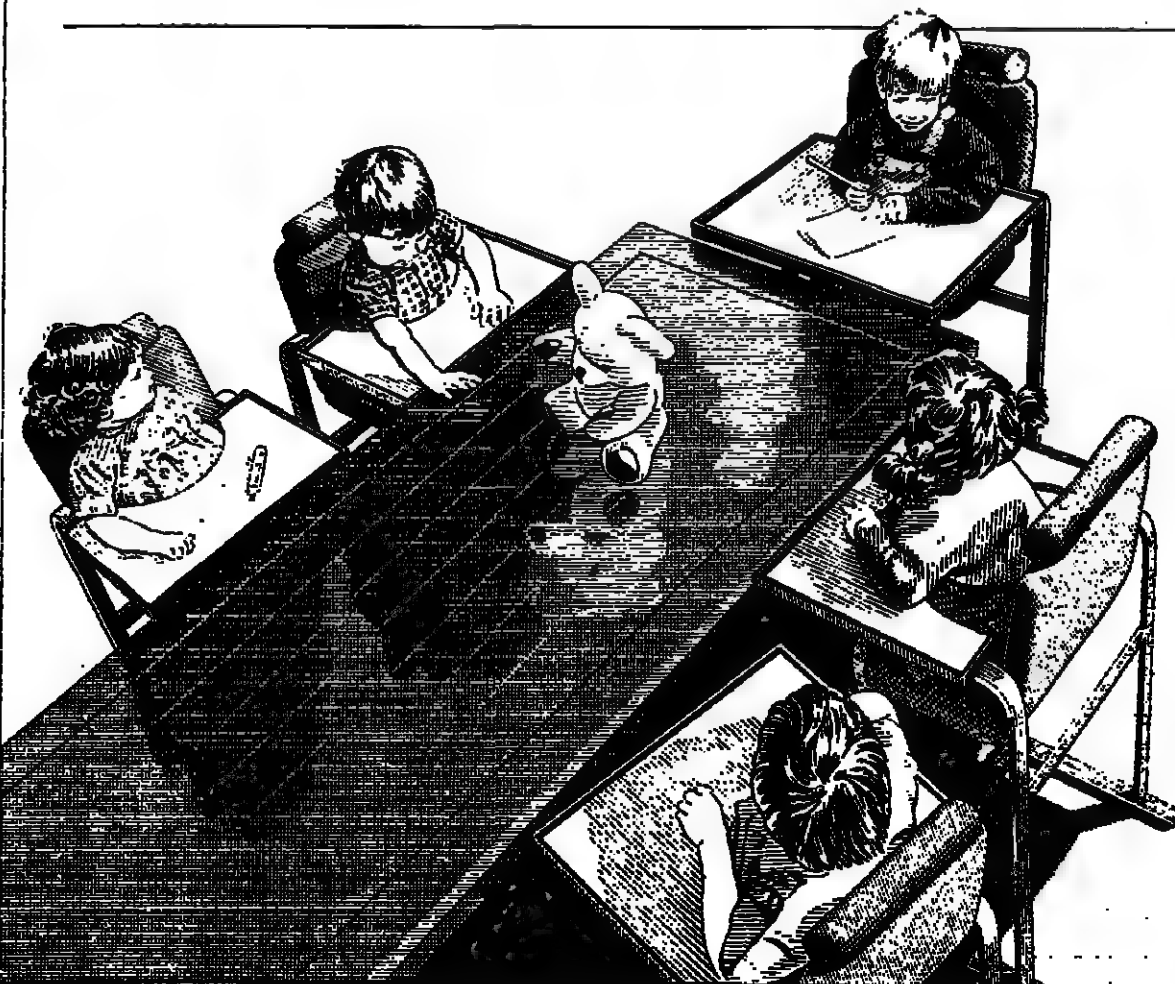


Richard Zamboni

Westwood Information Technology: Mr Richard Holden has joined as managing director.

Kingshurst Furnishings: Mr Christopher Delaney joins the board as sales and marketing director.

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COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE		Jan 132.00-91.75		Vol		price, 125.20ct-2.85		LONDON POTATO FUTURES								
G & W (Wheat & Co report)		Feb 131.75-91.50		Vol		pig nos. 4000-42.1, av. price, 77.45ct-2.50		E per tonne								
SUGAR (Wm & Co. Contract)		March 126.00-21.00		SILVER SMALL		LONDON MEAT FUTURES EXCHANGE		Month	Open	Close						
FOB		April 124.00-20.50		Cash		Pig Contract, p. per lot		Feb	111.0	112.0						
Oct 198.0-58.6		May 126.00-20.00		Three Months		Month	Open	Close	Nov	128.0						
Sept 171.5-21.0		June 125.00-20.00		Vol		Oct	Unq'd	126.0	179.0	184.5						
Mar 135.5-30.0		LONDON METAL EXCHANGE		Vol		Nov	Unq'd	126.5	197.5	201.0						
May 140.0-40.4		Unsettled prices		ALUMINUM		Dec	Unq'd	126.5	204.0	210.0						
Mar 140.0-40.4		Official Turnover figures		Cash		Pig	Unq'd	126.5	Vol 1648							
Oct 150.0-50.2		Prices in £ per metric tonne		Three Months		Aug	Unq'd	126.0								
Vol 5712		Silver in price per pair ounce		Vol		NICKEL										
COCOA		Rusted Wt & Co. Ltd. report		Cash		Cash		High/Low	Close							
Sept 1522.50		COPPER GRADE A		Three Months		Month	Open	Close	Oct 86	95.0-95.0	913.5					
Sept 137.70		Cash		Vol		Sept	Unq'd	96.5	Jan 67	910.0-910.0	919.0					
Mar 181.13		Three Months		Cash		Nov	Unq'd	97.5	Jan 67	945.0-945.0	913.5					
Mar 159.85		Vol		Three Months		Dec	Unq'd	98.5	July 67	750.0-750.0	775.0					
May 1862.50		Cash		Vol		Jan 68	Unq'd	98.5	Jan 68	750.0	765.0					
Sept 1870.50		Three Months		Cash		Feb	Unq'd	98.5	Feb 68	750.0	765.0					
Vol 1682.81		Vol		Three Months		Mar	Unq'd	100.0	Vol 118 lots	Open Interest: 2338						
Vol 3884		Vol		Three Months		June	Unq'd	100.0								
		STANDARD CATHODES		Cash		MEAT AND LIVESTOCK										
COFFEE		Cash		Three Months		Average livestock prices at representative markets on September 18										
Sept 2445-40		Cash		Vol		Gilt Cattle, \$3.80p per kg liv (-1.25)										
Sept 2457-40		Three Months		Cash		Swt Sheep 127.70p per kg liv (-1.25)										
Mar 2415-10		Vol		Three Months		Swt Lamb, \$1.50p per kg liv (-1.25)										
Mar 2345-40		Vol		Cash		£ and cent. carried weight										
May 2345-40		Vol		Cash		England and Wales:										
July 2340																

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Johnston	Industrials E-K	
2	Tren	Building Roads	
3	Clates (Frank G)	Motor/Aircraft	
4	Mowlem (John)	Building Roads	
5	Smith (W.H.) A	Drumery Stores	
6	Bank of Scotland	Bank/Discount	
7	Blue Circle	Building Roads	
8	Datasec	Electricals	
9	Ward	Building Roads	
10	Ascor Paper	Paper/Print/Adv	
11	Magnat & South	Building Roads	
12	Ultramar	Oil	
13	ASDA-MPI	Foodstuffs	
14	Dew (George)	Building Roads	
15	Hall (M)	Industrials E-K	
16	Greenland Whitley	Breweries	
17	Marlow	Electricals	
18	Royal Bank of Scot	Bank/Discount	
19	Granada	Industrials E-K	
20	Guinness	Breweries	
21	Strong & Fisher	Shoe/Lather	
22	Union	Bank/Discount	
23	Shell	Oil	
24	Powell Duffryn	Industrials L-R	
25	DRG	Paper/Print/Adv	
26	Wiggins	Building Roads	
27	Valin Pollen	Paper/Print/Adv	
28	Nat West	Bank/Discount	
29	Thornson T-Line	Industrials S-Z	
30	Shield Cp	Property	
31	Alcan	Bank/Discount	
32	Stand Chart	Building Roads	
33	McCarthy & S	Building Roads	
34	Metal Box	Industrials L-R	
35	McComqudale	Paper/Print/Adv	
36	Redland	Building Roads	
37	Transport Dev	Industrials S-Z	
38	Barratt Devs	Building Roads	
39	Hunterprint	Paper/Print/Adv	
40	Irish Dist	Breweries	
41	Fothergill & Harvey	Industrials E-K	
42	Isbeck Johnson	Building Roads	
43	Farnell Elect	Electricals	
44	Aprior Computers	Electricals	

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of 25,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

High Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	Open
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SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	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RACING: PORTLAND WINNER CAN ADD TO TRAINER'S IMPRESSIVE RECORD IN TODAY'S AYR GOLD CUP

Felipe Toro to complete notable sprint double

The stalls failure and subsequent false starts by flag in last week's eventful Portland Handicap at Doncaster detracted, in my view, from the impressive performance of the winner, Felipe Toro, who seeks to become only the third Portland scorer to go on and capture the always competitive Ayr Gold Cup, traditionally the highlight of the four-day Western meeting.

Royben and Jon George have already landed the big sprint double, and now I expect Peter Easterby's fast-improving three-year-old to follow in their footsteps, and in doing so extend his winning sequence to six.

At Doncaster John Lowe, on my selection, took full advantage of the actual flag start from his low draw and made all the running on the far rails to sail clear by four lengths from his stable companion, Bolin Emily, who is allowed only 6lb for that comprehensive defeat today.

Felipe Toro still looks on a handy mark today with 8st 6lb and this determined sprinter, who runs best in blinkers, can make the most of another favourable draw, this time highest of the 29 runners, to give his trainer his third Cup victory in four years, following Poly's Brother in 1983 and Able Albert in 1984.

Another well-drawn candidate, and the one I fear most, is the Richard Shaw-trained Jolista, who has won

runner-up to the 25-1 scorer, My Ton Ton.

And in previous seasons this particular race has gone to such notables as Hembit, the ill-fated Shearar and Rainbow Quest, who landed last season's Arc.

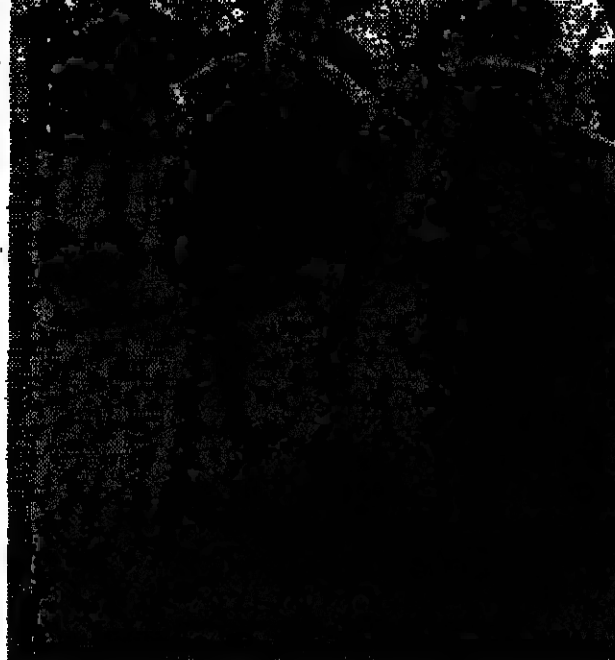
Today Bellotto's supporters should receive a boost in the shape of Marc Cunningham, who ran Jeremy Tree's fine prospect to two lengths in the Acomb Stakes at York.

The Dick Hern-trained Nijinsky colt will be well suited by today's straight mile, and can use his experience to tell against some choice newcomers, including another Beekhampton candidate, Lavrosky, a \$1.3m son of Nijinsky, and Charlie Nelson's highly regarded Silhouette Dancer.

I can pass on a recommendation for the Michael Stoute-trained newcomer Milligram in the Stable Stakes and Farm East West Stakes, but my idea of the best bet of the day is the Nelson-trained Marvella in the opening Marlborough Stakes.

This event is confined to three-year-olds, who have not won a race valued \$4,000 this year. Marvella, who landed last season's Norfolk Stakes as a juvenile, has been slow reaching peak form this term, but showed clear signs of returning to his best in his six-year-old debut.

Further earlier this month when finishing a close-up third behind Acushla, he should collect this time.



Daring Doonee (centre), overhauling Alchassibeh (right) in Brighton's Littlehampton Stakes (photograph: Ian Stewart)

Tipatina enjoys stroll at Brighton

Luca Cumani, the Newmarket trainer, who struck with Tipatina in the first race at Brighton on Wednesday, followed up at the seaside course yesterday when his 7-1 chance Tipatina, ridden by Greville Sturt, easily landed the first division of the Headfield Maiden Fillies Stakes.

Turf Lady made the running, but coming down the hill, the favourite Rare Memories took the lead. However, well before the final furlong, Sturtley accelerated Tipatina and the North-

ern Baby filly raced clear for a contemptuous seven lengths victory.

Paul Cole, responsible for the runner-up, blames the defeat of his 50-1 chance Nimes on the ground at Doncaster. He is planning to gallop two of his other star three-year-olds, Tins and Monrood, after racing at Newbury tomorrow.

Daring Doonee, a late developer who did not race as a two-year-old, made it two wins from two races when she got home by

a neck from Alchassibeh in the Littlehampton Fillies Stakes.

Alchassibeh had tried to make all the running, but John Reid mounted a late challenge on Daring Doonee, who was conceding 10lb. They made it 25 yards from the line and the photo-finish verdict was a neck in their favour.

Blinkered first time
Ave 2.0 Mianat, 3.10 Catherine Wall, Newbury 3.10 Top Wigs.

Arc chance for Acatenango

Acatenango, the undisputed German champion, who has not been beaten in the last two seasons, will take his chance in the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on October 5. Steve Cashin is to be offered the ride.

The colt's trainer, Heinz Jentzsch, has made no secret of the fact that he would have preferred to see a filly at the Arc, but evidently the owner, 79-year-old Walter Jacobs, has had the final say.

Wassil Reef provides century for Carson

Willie Carson completed his century of winners for the season at Ayr yesterday when the penalised Wassil Reef came with a strong late finish to end the Bayside Cup by three-quarters of a length from Past Glories.

Carson came with a fine late run on the 7-4 favourite, bringing the colt into the lead entering the last half furlong to win comfortably.

A spokesman for winning trainer John Dunlop, said: "Wassil Reef will be kept in training next year."

Carson went on to complete a treble when riding two winners for Dick Hern, who, who survived after beating Liseta a length in the Hall Farm Stud Maiden Fillies Stakes, and Temple Walk, who also won the Sam Hall Stakes by a length.

Restore gave his backers a scare when only just lasting home by a neck in the Shaw Memorial Handicap. The son of Habibat, who started at 5-2, was well clear of the field with a driving gait to race, but then drifted to the far side of the course and was involved in a photo finish with Golden Guilder.

His Epsom trainer, Geoff Lewis, said, "Restore took a muscle last year and was off for nearly three months. This is the third time that he has behaved like this. Perhaps it would be better to fit a visor on him next time."

Spring Steven, blinkered for the first time, strode home a comfortable length winner in the 5-4 favourite, Whipper In, in the Harry Rosebery Challenge Trophy.

AYR C4

Going: good to firm
Draw: 5-6 of high numbers best

2.0 KEITH ASPLAND MEMORIAL STAKES (23.46: 1m 5f) (8 runners)

1-20205 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
2-21120 MYTH (J. Rowley) R. Johnson 5-4-4
3-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
4-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
5-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
6-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
7-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
8-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4

Ayr selections

2.0 Innishmore Island, 2.35 War Brave, 3.10 Felipe Toro, 3.40 Jays Special, 4.10 Flutery, 4.40 Run by Jove

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Mianat, 2.35 Lucayan Knight, 3.10 Jolista, 3.40 Fair Park, 4.10 Flutery, 4.40 Prairie Oyster

Michael Sedg's selection: 3.10 JOKIST (nap).

2.35 LADBROKES LANTON LEISURE STAKES (2-Y-O: 23.22: 6f) (9)

1-20205 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
2-21120 MYTH (J. Rowley) R. Johnson 5-4-4
3-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
4-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
5-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
6-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
7-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
8-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
9-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4

1-4 War Brave, 2-4 New Harry, 3-4 Lucayan Knight, 4-4 Peltor Stakes, 5-4 Bowler Field, 6-4 New Harry, 7-4 Peltor Stakes, 8-4 Bowler Field, 9-4 New Harry

Selection: WAR WAVE

3.10 LADBROKES AYR GOLD CUP (Handicap: 22.47: 6f) (29)

1-20205 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
2-21120 MYTH (J. Rowley) R. Johnson 5-4-4
3-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
4-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
5-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
6-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
7-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
8-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4
9-20221 HERRINGHORN (P) J. Smith M. P. 5-4-4

1-2 Felipe Toro, 2-1 Catherine Wall, 3-2 Jolista, 4-1 Mianat, 5-1 Jock, 6-1 Chaplin, 7-1 Compost, 8-1 Hilton Brown, 9-1 Green Ruby, 10-1 Bottle Entry

Selection: FELIPE TORO

Ayr results

2.0 (1m 5f) 1. RESTORE (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
2.0 (1m 5f) 2. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
3.0 (1m 5f) 3. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
4.0 (1m 5f) 4. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
5.0 (1m 5f) 5. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
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7.0 (1m 5f) 7. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
8.0 (1m 5f) 8. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
9.0 (1m 5f) 9. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)

2.0 (1m 5f) 1. WASSIL REEF (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
2.0 (1m 5f) 2. Peltor Stakes (P) (W. Carson, 5-2-2)
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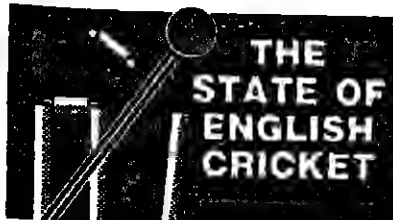
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Imagine Lord's as a leisure centre



After the cricket writer and the cricketers, the cricket-lovers answer the questions put by *The Times*. What has gone wrong with English cricket? And how can it be put to rights? Lord Wigoder talks to Paul Martin.

Baron Wigoder of Cheetham in the City of Manchester, wartime artillery officer, Queen's Counsel, Recorder of the Crown Court, judge at the Old Bailey, member of the MCC, Life Peer since 1974, and the Liberal's Chief Whip in the Lords, now chairman of BUPA, a not untypical figure of the Establishment, you might figure. You would be wrong.

For while he praises the progress being made in overcoming class divisions in cricket, he describes the game's rulers as "to a substantial extent, a self-perpetuating oligarchy living in a bygone age."

Lord Wigoder shakes his head. "We have got to a situation now when one can't help thinking that if W.G. Grace were alive today, he would be suspended for showing dissent and probably ordered to have his beard cut as well."

Who, they may be asking at Lord's, is this fellow? Which school tie does he wear, and which county did he play for? Answer: Basil Wigoder, son of a dentist, was a grammar school boy, went up to Oxford, and never played county cricket. But he loves the game; he played it passably well at club, then village green level, until he called it a day a couple of years ago in his 64th year. "My reflexes got too slow for decent fielding and I didn't want to let my team down."

Lord Wigoder has been a devotee of cricket since early childhood, when he would gaze endlessly through his nursery window in Manchester at the exploits on the adjoining club cricket ground "to the great detriment of my homework."

One of those exploits, incidentally, was a six struck by a certain medium-pacer called Bolton, whom he remembers well, that felled an old lady named Mrs Stone walking in the adjacent street. It led to the famous Bolton and Stone court case that established the law regarding cricketers' and clubs' liability when big hits strike passers-by.

Young Basil would sneak out alone into the back garden and spend many hours a week bowling a tennis ball at a brick in front of a wall. Epic Ashes Test matches were decided there in accordance with the strict rules set by his vivid imagination. He also kept a full scorecard of each fictitious encounter, and did his averages at the end of the season. "Later, as a teenager, I would impose on relatives around the country wherever there was a Test match over weekends."

He might have been immortalized had he been born a little earlier. What he took to be off-breaks turned out, when his father took him to Old Trafford for some coaching, to have been googlies. "Bosies may have been called Wiggies," as a lifelong leg-spinner, while, of course, also throwing in the occasional wrong 'un, he bemoans the demise of the leg-spin art in England.

Lord Wigoder, since he became

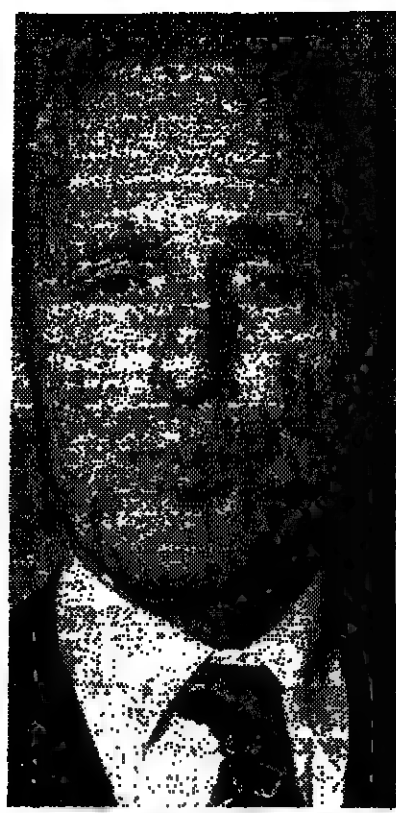
chairman of BUPA, which, by the way, provides health insurance for most county cricketers, has cunningly arranged for his company to buy boxes at many county grounds, "which I, by pure coincidence, can visit during big matches".

He is depressed that the full houses he recalls for county matches at Old Trafford are generally a thing of the past. "For most days of the season, there are a lot of rather undistinguished players who are all indistinguishable from one another, playing rather pointlessly on deserted cricket grounds — a very sad sight."

England's cricketing malady can best be treated, he believes, by attacking the cause of the disease at county level. "Most cricket grounds are not attractive places to go to; the seats are incredibly uncomfortable, the food is invariably awful, the lavatories are depressing, there are hardly any telephones, and if it's crowded at a one-day game, queues form in all directions."

The solution Lord Wigoder favours is to turn cricket grounds into family sports and recreation centres, funded by a share of the burgeoning income from sponsorship. "Take Lord's. Right in the heart of London, and with lots of room on the Nursery Ground. People are crying out for sports facilities and it's empty half the year. It's an ideal place to put in some bowling greens, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, a children's playground, tennis courts and so on. You could have family membership, so that wives and children could spend the day and have fun, while the father watches the cricket and takes the children back to the play area. We could do that around the country, like many European football grounds are starting to do."

He concedes it is a fairly radical idea, and he doubts whether today's administrators are sufficiently innovative to implement it — just as they failed to see



Lord Wigoder: radical solutions

that Kerry Packer's approach had, on balance, more advantages than drawbacks. "There are still hangers on from the Gentlemen versus Players era. The game's rules have improved, and are doing well in attracting sponsorship, but for while the game would, by now, be dead. But it seems sadly symbolic that the only game you can play at Lord's besides cricket is the totally esoteric Real Tennis."

In general, too, he believes there is a need for more emphasis on management skills in selecting administrators,

and less on their cricketing pedigree, though he says management training is neglected throughout society. The question of management is especially crucial in overseas touring sides, he points out.

He largely blames the cricket Establishment for the hostility between them and those he calls "cricket's great characters". The latter, he fears, are an endangered species, "with a 'dull uniformity' being sought rather than the 'occasional eccentric, sometimes abrasive, personality that we should cherish. Cricket is a game you can express yourself in more vividly than in any other sport I can think of."

The game would be in a much more healthy state if there was a Botham-type figure in every county side. I appreciate they are sometimes a bit of a nuisance, but it's up to the administrators to get round that, by appointing firm managers and captains."

Part of the problem, he feels, is that there are too many upper-middle class administrators running the game, with a different socio-economic background to the bulk of today's players. "They lack the imagination to put themselves in the players' shoes."

Botham, he says, should be accepted warts and all, with his vices as well as his virtues. "It needs a great deal of sympathy to deal with the problems that inevitably arise with the tremendous publicity for everything he does."

Despite his years as an Old Bailey judge and leading barrister, he is not convinced that Botham's admitted drug-taking has deserved the vilification it got. "Soft drugs used moderately may even be less harmful than too much alcohol. Certainly I am told you can play cricket better after a marijuana cigarette than after a couple of pints of beer."

Incidentally, "though I regret to say I as I enjoy a drink," Lord Wigoder wants the sale of liquor severely restricted, but not entirely outlawed, at cricket matches. "There is just too much of it around, and the louts can consume it

hour after hour." He is deeply worried that the boogian element notorious to football (another game he loves) is looking to cricket grounds as "an alternative venue for its vile behaviour."

To return to the county scene: Lord Wigoder hopes suggestions of extending the matches to four days are accepted without delay. "Four-day matches may bring back crowds as each day's play will mean something. The three-day game has become totally artificial. People going on the first two days feel the cricket they see will have little relevance to the result. For the first two days, nothing happens except preparations for a contrived declaration during the third day. Then it's a sort of one-day run-chase."

Once county cricket picks up, and cricket grounds become fun places, Lord Wigoder believes the youngsters will be stimulated to look at cricket as a worthwhile career. "You have to convince youngsters they'll get a lot of pleasure playing the game. At present, how can you expect youngsters to want a career, performing in a rather pointless way before a dozen spectators?"

Another of Lord Wigoder's iconoclastic views is that we should be encouraging more overseas players, not seeking to keep most of them out. "Without overseas players, no average county batsman would ever face a real fast bowler, and very few English bowlers would have the chance to bowl to a man of Viv Richards' calibre. I don't believe promising cricketers, who are in short supply anyway, are being kept out of county sides by overseas cricketers."

"They not only add an enormous amount to the quality and attraction of the game, helping to stop the decline in crowds, but I suspect if their energies were properly harnessed, they would be of tremendous use to younger cricketers coming on in the side."

Tim Rice, song-writer, on the sport he loves

Why do people go on knocking the game so much?

This week I told a distinguished and well-known member of England's Test team that I was writing a few words on what's wrong with cricket in this country. He said that one of the things that was wrong was that too many people were asking what was wrong.

He has a point. There are many aspects of the game I have loved for over 30 years that are in great shape. I believe that the playing skills of the best players are as great as those of many of the giants of the past and that the names of Botham, Gower, Gooch and Lamb (for example) will be held in esteem long after they have retired.

I believe that public interest in the game is still enormous, despite the lack of consistent success enjoyed by the England team in recent years. Coverage in the Press and on radio and television in many quarters is excellent; cricket literature thrives. The standard of fielding is markedly better than it has ever been.

The people who earn their living from the game are among the most delightful in any profession. The best players are earning the kind of money their talent deserves. One of the principle reasons why the England team struggles at times is that everyone else has improved rather than any deterioration in England's standards.

I go to a great many first-class and one-day fixtures and nearly always feel I have had some worthwhile entertainment. Club and village cricket continues with unalloyed charm and sociability.

But I do have a few concerns, many of which have been well-rehearsed by others. I realize that there are often economic arguments which prevent some of my wishes being granted, but from a selfish and enthusiastic

amateur's point of view, my first XI are as follows:

I: The decline of cricket in many schools.

II: The appalling and morose behaviour of crowds: mindless drunkenness often the cause as far as England supporters are concerned; some incomprehensible desire for noise as far as other supporters are concerned. Commentators in the media and officials at grounds often seem ludicrously tolerant of pitch invasions and relentless hubbub.

III: The covering of pitches which eliminates much of the glorious uncertainty of the game and variety of bowling.

IV: The reluctance to introduce four-day county championship matches which would give more players the chance to shine and prepare for the ultimate examination of Test matches. It would also mean that uncovered pitches would not lead to too many draws through time lost.

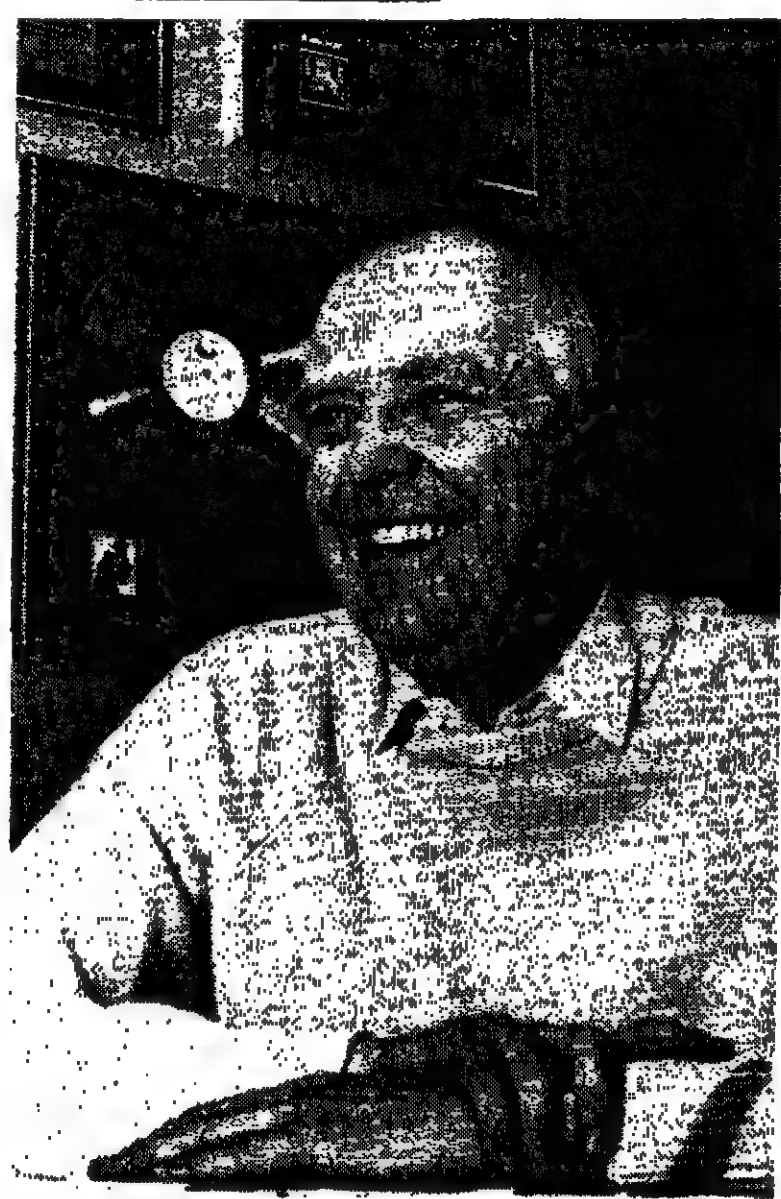
As far as cricket lovers are concerned, the county championship is far less exciting about as much as for watching and I am fed up with reading about contrived finishes and forfeited innings.

V: Still too many overseas players in county cricket.

VI: Man-of-the-match awards are meaningless sideshows. It is a team game and however distinguished the arbiter he cannot often really know who made the most vital contribution. The cricketers realize this and split the winnings anyway.

VII: Too many Test matches. If a team is beaten badly in one series, it is all too soon flung into another against the same opposition. Consequently it is half-beaten before it starts. Bradman tore out bowling apart at respectable intervals.

VIII: Far too many one-day inter-



Tim Rice: "There are many aspects of the game that are in great shape"

nationals. They have become almost meaningless and impossible to recall two days later. Ironically, there are on rare occasions too few, i.e., when there are attempts to call a two-match rubber a series.

IX: Some sections of the cricket Press are scandalous muck-rakers taking needless and vicious advantage of the occasional (regrettable) indiscretion.

X: The averages are printed far less regularly in the intelligent cricket Press than they used to be.

XI: The waiting time for MCC membership has become ridiculously long and the membership is in danger of growing too ancient.

Millfield's lessons pay off

Blame for England's cricket woes is often laid at the doors of our schools. Millfield, in Somerset, is, however, beyond such criticism. Thanks largely to the indomitable will of Colin Atkinson, this independent school (he shines away from the term "public") has become cricket education's superpower.

It boasts two present county captains, Peter Roebuck, of Somerset, and David Graveney, of Gloucestershire, as well as several other first-class cricketers. At one stage recently, 11 of its old boys were on county staffs.

Yet, when Mr Atkinson came to the school in 1960, it had no reputation for cricket: only one of its ex-pupils had gained an Oxford blue. "It gradually grew," Mr Atkinson, now the school principal, recalls proudly.

He points to the superb facilities he has installed, including a covered indoor riding school which has been converted into a cricket pitch and nets, as well as artificial pitches laid on outside fields. The school's reputation produces a spiral, he explains, with more cricket-loving parents sending their children there and cricket-minded teachers seeking to join the staff.

Mr Atkinson, who is also the president of Somerset and a member of the Test and County Cricket Board, is not entirely cock-a-hoop though. He is saddened that his light shines so brightly while in the State schools cricket's torch grows dimmer. "I have a lot of sympathy with the State school teachers," he says.

"Their education departments' budgets are so tight it is not surprising they put classroom facilities and equipment as priorities ahead of cricket pitches, which are, unlike soccer and rugby fields, costly to maintain."

He sees some "light at the end of the

tunnel" though. Some clubs are taking over the role of nurturing the young cricketers, but he notes that "many other clubs turn their heads away." The problem he sees, even where clubs do help, is that their own facilities are poor. "It takes a certain dedication from clubs and from a 13-year-old lad who goes to them. The nets are often appalling. You can't bat on them."

Mr Atkinson is aware that cricket's decline is aggravated by a trend among State teachers to discourage competitive sports. Hardly surprisingly, he says it is "a load of nonsense" to suggest that competition is bad for children. "It's part and parcel of human nature — to deny it is to live in cloud cuckoo land."

But he also recognizes there is validity in the argument that too much stress has been laid on competition in the past. "Fathers jumping up and down on the touchline or the boundary have got it out of balance. We need a restraining hand." He tries to prevent parents — and teachers — trying to "mould" the children in their own image, "or into what they would like to have been."

"Cricket is just one of over 40 sporting activities we offer, some not very competitive," he says. "I don't regret giving them the choices. What we do is insist they be exposed to the traditional English way of life — in sport that means cricket, rugby, soccer and athletics — as well as music and religion. "You can see if they're not enjoying a sport. At prep school we say they must play a team game: what they don't enjoy is being in a team and seldom getting a bat or bowl. It's reasonable for a certain forcing to occur provided you allow them to opt out later."

Mr Atkinson is more than a school principal. As a member of the TCCB, he

is not one of the old guard who whinges on about a bygone halcyon age. "I give them hell in committee when people say in our day we'd have rolled the opposition over. I'm sure if England's present Test team played the Pakistan or India of old we'd have given them a tanking. The decline of English cricket is relative to the rise of cricket elsewhere."

At the heart of England's cricket problem lies the society's material success, he believes. "We have it easy in England. We are not producing hungry enough people." Even the financially secure Australians, New Zealanders and South Africans have an incentive to succeed in cricket as "an easy way to get abroad, especially to Europe." English players lack the motivation to tour.

Though he says overseas players learn from playing county cricket here — and that helps them win Test matches — Mr Atkinson is not sure the present restrictions on them are justified.

"There is a bit of me that says we should allow two, not one, overseas players a side. If a young English player is good enough there are nine other places. Against that, it is possible the overseas stars have the lion's share of the cricket. Great players tend to dominate the crease and do a lot of bowling."

As Somerset's president, Mr Atkinson will soon have to preside over the emergency general meeting on the future of Viv Richards and Joel Garner. He has tried to maintain a silence on the controversy so that he can act neutrally at the crisis gathering. "There is bound to be bitterness and recrimination either way," he sighs. Still, if his county provide him with heartache, at least his school cricketers still bring him undeserved joy.

Paul Martin

Leadership is the clue to solving the mystery

Jeffrey Archer refuses to write a novel about English cricket, despite his boundless enthusiasm for it. He fears there would not be much of a market for the book, even in Britain where "half the people wouldn't understand it." That speaks volumes, as does the fact that one of his sons, aged 14, has spurned cricket for golf, and his other son prefers running.

As an ardent Thatcherite, he is concerned at poor government in cricket, especially the post of tour manager. "We need a strong man, properly paid and given lots of power. Ray Illingworth might have been our man."

The rulers of cricket do not fill him with confidence. "They are very charming, pleasant people who have not quite got into the professional world."

Stress should be laid on the captain's leadership skills rather than his batting and bowling ability. He suggests that Peter Roebuck or Mark Nicholas would make good England captains.

This is but tinkering, he admits. England's rulers face a lack of drive stemming from the good life. He recalls driving from the Barbados Oval three years ago and coming across a bowler bowling a stone fast at another club using a stump as a bat. "I was thinking, as he sneaked that stone all over, in 10 years they'll be destroying us at Taunton and Lord's. No West Indian, he says, would ever turn down a tour as Gooch has done."

Archer was due to speak last night at Joel Garner's benefit dinner and, as a Somerset fanatic, supporting them when they were last for many years, he plans to plead with Botham to stay on. Though he hates admitting defeat in any sphere, he confesses that in this quest he will probably have to.

'Bullies must go'

It is hard to decide if Frances Edmonds is a cricket lover or a cricket hater. She certainly pulls no punches about those who rule the lives of her husband, Phil, and through him her own. The present administrators have got to go. They are out of touch," she says citing Peter May, the chairman of the England selectors, as a prime target.

Mrs Edmonds has an axe to grind, of course. She believes her husband should be England's captain: "Only a well-educated man, helped by some colonial arrogance, can hold his own against the snobs and bullies of the Long Room."

Her criticisms continue on a broader front. "The selectors have no strategy. They axe players too fast, so there's too much pressure on them. Look at poor Geoff Thomas."

She urged the administrators to set up an international supervisory panel to ensure decent Test pitches and practice facilities. "They should insist England won't play on awful wickets, like we had in the West Indies. The practice nets there were so abysmal it's no wonder lots of players didn't bother to turn up."

With sponsorship money flowing into cricket, she felt it



Jeffrey Archer: hates defeat

was time the authorities stopped their "archaic" practice of making all cricketers share rooms on tour "like a bunch of juveniles." She adds: "They have different sleeping patterns and needs for solitude. My husband, for example, is an insomniac and drives his room-mates mad."

'Media to blame'

Robin Askwith arranges his overseas acting assignments wherever possible to coincide with cricket tours. He has just returned from a "Run for Your Wife" tour of New

Zealand — arranged in the erroneous belief that England were touring there.

Ah well, the idea was a good one. At least David Gower, his great friend, saw him perform recently. The former England captain visited the show five times in London's West End.

The two men swapped tickets for their respective performances: at Lord's, Askwith delights in cheering and stamping to the chagrin of the men in the MCC ties.

"They should select new selectors," Askwith says, bitter at the dropping of Gower as captain. He believes the happy-go-lucky Gower approach produces better cricket than the dour attitude he thinks is now in force.

He blames the media for much of cricket's ills. "The media got rid of David, they put the selectors in a corner. If anyone plays badly they demand he gets dropped. I sit with the players' wives as they are being their fingernails off, there's so much pressure on their men to perform."

He also blames the Press for reporting "what the players smoke or who they go to bed with." He believes only what happens on the field should be printed.

Paul Martin

Boon's hundred opens Australian account

Madras (Reuters) — A solid 122 by the opening batsman, David Boon, lifted Australia to a comfortable 241 for two in their first innings at the close of the opening day in the first Test match against India yesterday.

Boon hit 21 fours in his third Test century, scored in 331 minutes, and also passed his 1,000 runs in Test cricket before he edged the pacesman, Chetan Sharma, to Kapil Dev at second slip.

The Australian vice-captain, whose Test career has been transformed since he was promoted to opener last year, added 58 for the second wicket with Dean Jones, who ended the day on 56 not out.

Kapil Dev brought spin into the attack almost immediately after losing the toss on a dry, grassless pitch, which had no other bounce nor turn. Although the left-armers, Maninder Singh, and the off-spinner, Shivlal Yadav, kept the batsmen to a slow scoring rate the only wicket to fall before lunch was that of Geoff Marsh who was caught at mid-on by Kapil Dev when he mis-hit Yadav.

Boon had a few narrow escapes with misguided books and was finally tempted by Sharma, who induced an edge off his first delivery with the new ball.

AUSTRALIA First Innings
G B Boon c Kapil Dev b Sharma 122
D M Jones not out 58
D M Jones not out 56
R J England not out 56
Extras (lb 1, nb 9, w 1) 11
Total (2 wickets) 241
A R Borneo, G M Sharma, G R J Matthews, S H Waugh, G J Ziehm, G J McDermott and S A Reid to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-48, 2-208.
BOWLING: G B Boon 11-4-15-0; Sharma 10-38-1; Maninder 28-4-70-0; Yadav 16-4-35-1; Shastri 20-4-48-0.

● The itinerary for the Indian section of the 1987 World Cup has been announced.
INDIA: December 8-10 India v Australia (Sydney); December 12-14 India v New Zealand (Sydney); December 16-18 India v Zimbabwe (Brisbane); December 19-21 India v New Zealand (Brisbane); December 23-25 India v Australia (Melbourne); December 27-29 India v New Zealand (Melbourne); December 31-1986 India v New Zealand (Melbourne). The semi-finals will be played in Bombay and Lahore, and the final (November 7 and 8) in Calcutta.

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4th-19th October 1986.



هكزاد من الكحل

Executive Editor
Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1269.1 (-10.5)
FT-SE 100
1600.4 (-13.8)
Bargains
17149
USM (Datastream)
124.2 (+0.01)
THE POUND
US Dollar
1.4765 (+0.0050)
W German mark
2.9486 (+0.0190)
Trade-weighted
69.6 (+0.2)

Go-ahead
for BCal

The Japanese government has cleared the way for British Caledonian to begin servicing the London-Tokyo route. And the Government is "within striking distance" of an agreement with the Soviet Union for overflight rights for the airline, according to Mr Michael Spicer, Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Transport. British Caledonian hopes to start its new Tokyo service in the spring. Mr Spicer has been in Japan tying up the final details of the agreement with the government and talking with All Nippon Airways about the possibility of a second Japanese carrier on the route. He again pressed the Japanese to buy British airlines, notably the British Aerospace 146 short-haul airliner, which has "extremely good prospects", after successes in the American and Chinese markets.

BHP setback

Broken Hill Proprietary, the Australian oil, minerals and steel company, showed a 40 per cent fall in net profits to A\$182.4 million in the first quarter to August 31. Sales fell by 6.7 per cent to A\$2.1 billion. The interim dividend is maintained at A\$17.5c. *Temps page 22*

T&N inquiry

Turner & Newall, which made an unsuccessful bid for AE, said it will "pursue vigorously in conjunction with its financial and legal advisers" reports that 10 per cent of AE shares were sold through AE's brokers before the offer price after the bid collapsed. T&N said the Take-over Panel was investigating the matter.

Unilever offer

Unilever is making an agreed cash offer for Naarden International at fl 90 a share, valuing the total business at fl 1.379 million (about £112 million). Unilever already owns 49 per cent of Naarden.

£1.27m deal

A and P Appledore Group is issuing 529,412 new shares, 15 per cent of its enlarged capital, to buy Tower Maritime Ship Repair Services and its subsidiaries from the Tower Maritime Group for £1.27 million.

Exco buy

Exco International is to acquire 60 per cent of Le Masurier James and Chinn, the only remaining independent Jersey stockbroking partnership, subject to approval.

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MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	1765.81 (-8.57)
Dow Jones	1765.81 (-8.57)
Nikkei Dow	17523.45 (+45.10)
Hong Kong	closed
Amsterdam Gen	280.4 (-1.2)
Sydney AC	1210.5 (+11.3)
Frankfurt	1964.3 (+2.3)
Brussels	3933.23 (-57.8)
General	380.2 (+7.5)
Zurich	n/a
SKA General	n/a
London closing prices	Page 25

INTEREST RATES

London:	
Bank Base 10%	
3-month Interbank 10 1/4-10 3/4%	
3-month eligible bills 10 1/4-9 3/4%	
buying rate	
US:	
Prime Rate 7 1/4%	
Federal Funds 5 1/4%	
3-month Treasury Bills 5.26-5.24%	
30-year bonds 9 3/4-9 1/2%	

CURRENCIES

London:		New York:	
£: \$1.4765		£: \$1.4765	
DM: 2.9486		DM: 2.9486	
Swf: 2.3772		Swf: 2.3772	
FF: 6.55		FF: 6.55	
Yen: 163.6		Yen: 163.6	
ECU: 1.36633		ECU: 1.36633	
SDR: 1.36633		SDR: 1.36633	
Index: 62.6		Index: 62.6	

Market nerves send gold to three-year high

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The gold price rose by more than \$10 an ounce to its highest level for more than three years yesterday, amid continuing nervousness in financial markets.

The pound and the dollar both recovered after Thursday's sharp losses, but dealers said that this mainly reflected pre-weekend covering by traders, and the underlying tone remained weak.

Gold fulfilled its traditional role as barometer of tension in the financial markets. At the afternoon fix in London, it was \$430 an ounce, a rise of \$10.25 on the previous closing level, and the highest London fix since July 1982.

In trading, gold reached \$435 an ounce. The rise was explained by uncertainties in stock and bond markets around the world, as well as worries over the dollar and a possible rekindling of inflation.

Gold coins rose in line with the bullion price. Kruggerands rose by more than £5 to £290-£291.50.

The pound and the dollar both recovered ground yesterday, after the sharp falls earlier in the week. The sterling index, which had closed at

a record low of 69.4 on Thursday, rose by 0.5 to end at 69.9 yesterday.

Against the mark, the pound rose by more than a penny to DM2.9415. It also gained half a cent against the generally firmer dollar, closing at \$1.4765.

The mark, which has been pushed higher this week on confirmation of the reluctance on the part of the German

authorities to cut interest rates, paused for breath.

The dollar, sent down on Wednesday and Thursday by comments from the US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker, threatening to drive the dollar lower if the Germans do not relent, also steadied.

Against the mark, the dollar edged up to DM1.9970, from DM1.9905 overnight.

There is some evidence that the focus of the foreign exchange markets may be switching back towards the yen. Yesterday, the dollar fell to 152.35 against the yen, from 153.55, the yen having

earlier recorded a new high of 151.70.

The pound was helped by the view that the sharp fall this week may have been overdone, as well as by a further hardening of money market interest rates in London. Rates rose sharply early yesterday on fears of higher base rates.

They later eased back but the three-month interbank rate still closed a quarter of a point higher at 10 1/4-10 3/4 per cent.

This week's market rise has created pressure within the European Monetary System. The finance ministers of the EEC are meeting informally this weekend at Ginecages. The meeting, hosted by the Chancellor, Mr Nigel Lawson, is a normal pre-IMF gathering.

It will, however, focus on the latest currency turbulence. Shares in London and New York lost some ground yesterday. The FT 30-share index fell by 10.5 points to 1,269.1. In New York, just before the "Triple Witching Hour" simultaneous expiry of stock options and futures, the Dow Jones industrial average was down six points at 1768.

Schroders offshoot sold for £99m

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

J Henry Schroder Wagg, the merchant bank, took a further step yesterday towards concentrating its operations in wholesale banking and securities business, with the sale of its life assurance and related unit trust business for £99 million.

The subsidiary, Schroder Financial Management Limited, is being purchased by National Mutual Life Association of Australia as part of a programme of expansion outside Australia.

SFML, the unit-linked life company, which was established in the early 1970s, appeared in Schroders' 1985 accounts with a capital value of £22 million.

The company contributed £700,000 in operating earnings to the group's total profit last year.

Mr George Mallinckrodt, chairman of Schroders, said: "Undoubtedly there is a very substantial premium involved in the sale price. It is a good price in relation to other similar transactions." He added that the valuation of SFML in last year's accounts was very conservative.

Mr Patrick Meier of Orion Royal Bank, which is advising National Mutual in the deal, said that the £99 million was "a fair price for a good business with a good name. The company will form an important part of NM's operations in the UK."

The sale leaves Schroder with no retail business. Mr Mallinckrodt said that the bank did not need all the money from the sale at present but that it was convenient to enter big bang with an extra cushion of capital.

Schroder has carried out a programme of restructuring its business, including the sale of its holding in a US commercial bank.

Schroders has received a large number of offers for SFML over the last few years. Mr Mallinckrodt said that the company had now reached a stage of development in which Schroders did not want to be involved.

He said: "It is ready for rapid expansion but we have no international insurance interests. Ownership by an insurance company is appropriate for SFML at this point."

GDP slows to 0.2% growth

Britain's gross domestic product rose by a modest 0.2 per cent in the second quarter and the economy expanded by just 1.4 per cent compared with last year.

However, the latest figures are encouraging on inflationary trends. In the second quarter, the GDP deflator—a measure of overall inflation in the economy—recorded an almost unprecedented fall of 0.8 per cent, at factor cost.

Second quarter growth, as measured by the average of income, expenditure and output measures of GDP, was pulled down by a 0.2 per cent fall in the expenditure measure, due to a second quarter drop in investment. Consumer spending was up 1.8 per cent.

The output measure of GDP rose 0.5 per cent in the second quarter to 2 per cent above its second quarter 1985 level. Services were very strong, recording an increase in output of 1.2 per cent.

Income GDP rose by 0.2 per cent to 0.7 per cent higher than the corresponding period of 1985. Company profits suffered from declining North Sea profits, falling 12 per cent in the second quarter.



Break in talks for two Austrian delegates, Herr Gerhard Waas (right) and Herr Georg Reisch.

Hard bargaining at Gatt talks

From Bailey Morris, Punta del Este, Uruguay

World trade ministers worked around the clock yesterday to break a procedural log-jam that threatened to delay the launch of a new global trade round after a week of negotiations.

Although there was broad agreement that progress had been made on the key issues of agriculture and services, ministers were still engaged in hard bargaining over the wording of the communiqué and the procedures to be followed by member nations of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Attempts were made, for example, to include the Soviet

Union in the new trade round under a motion from Czechoslovakia, but the United States and European nations objected.

In order to bring developing nations, led by India and Brazil into the process, ministers agreed to consider other means of holding multilateral talks on services, through a two-track negotiating process, which would eventually come under the Gatt umbrella.

The marathon talks were the result of a search for consensus among developed and developing countries, which ministers described as crucial.

There is general agreement among the 92 Gatt member nations that a new round will be launched.

However, the United States remained adamant that its four key issues, agriculture, services, investment and intellectual property rights, must be included in the talks under the auspices of Gatt.

Mr Clayton Yeutter, the US trade representative, said he would leave today with or without an agreement.

European officials were insistent on the form of words intended to balance the benefits in global trade. At the same time, after achieving a

common position on agriculture, with a surprising lack of dissent, EEC ministers were determined to fight attempts by Australia and the United States to strengthen the terms on subsidies.

The EEC is opposed to an agreement which would say that there must be "the phased reduction within an agreed time frame" of subsidies.

Developing countries were equally insistent that the industrialized nations should not dominate the negotiating process by drawing up rules requiring trade-off between goods and services in the new round.

Smith & Nephew buys US medical group for £193m

By Alison Eadie

Smith & Nephew, the medical and healthcare products company which manufactures Nivea and Elastoplast, is making its largest ever acquisition with the £283.9 million (£192.7 million) purchase of Richards Medical Company based in Memphis, Tennessee.

Richards makes surgical implants, equipment and instruments for the orthopaedic market and is the third largest company in the United States specializing in the growing area of arthroscopy, the repair of bone and cartilage through skin puncture.

It made pretax profits in 1985 of \$15.2 million on sales of \$141.4 million, compared with profits of \$14.5 million and sales of \$123 million in 1984.

The acquisition is being financed by a conditional vendor placing to institutions of 110.6 million new shares at a tightly priced 115p to raise £127.1 million. The remaining

£65.6 million is being met by borrowing.

The vendor placing has a 100 per cent clawback option to enable ordinary shareholders to apply for up to two new shares for every 15 held.

Recent large vendor placings, notably those by Dees Corporation and Boots, have attracted institutional pressure to add a clawback facility.

Smith's chief executive, Mr Eric Kinder, said the company wanted to give small shareholders the opportunity to participate in the issue and there was no question of institutional pressure dictating terms.

A vendor placing was chosen instead of a rights issue because of the need for speed and confidentiality.

CooperVision Inc, of Palo Alto, California, which is selling Richards, needed a quick sale to relieve its stretched balance sheet.

Mr Kinder said there would be very little overlap between

the two businesses, but they would fit beautifully side by side. He said the price paid was very satisfactory for a strategically ideal business.

The exit price/earnings ratio has been estimated by stockbroking analysts at between 25 and 30.

Although it seems expensive, analysts have pointed out that Richards is in a very high-tech part of the medical equipment business.

Health services are keen on Richards' products because they reduce hospital stays and cut healthcare costs.

The acquisition is not expected to dent Smith's strong growth record.

Although there could be minimal dilution of earnings in 1987, Richards is expected to enhance earnings growth from 1988.

The new shares will add 13.3 per cent to Smith's existing equity.

Smith shares closed down 8p at 117p.

'More job mobility needed'

Lord Young of Graffham, the Employment Minister, said yesterday there should be greater differentials in pay across the country to encourage job mobility.

The practice of negotiating wage rises nationally has meant there are now hardly any differences in pay for skills in different areas.

"And yet there should be, because there is an obvious differential in housing and opportunity costs between the North and the South," he said.

The Government had to look at education in different areas of the country and at the deregulation of rents to enable people to rent accommodation in areas where work was available but property prices were very high, he said.

Lord Young said job mobility had probably declined over the past 15-20 years and the increased number of working women made it more difficult for families to move.

Profits slump at Enterprise

By Carol Ferguson

Enterprise Oil yesterday announced it was maintaining its interim dividend—so far the only independent oil company to do so—despite a slump in pretax profits.

The company blamed the profits fall, from £61.7 million in the first half of last year to just above break-even point at £1.2 million in the corresponding period this year, on the severity of the fall in the oil prices from £21 a barrel in 1985 to an average £11 a barrel in the first half of 1986.

The interim dividend will be maintained at 3.5p. The group's cash position,

in contrast, remained strong. Net liquid resources increased by £11.2 million, due to cutbacks in exploration spending, field development and operating costs and corporate overheads.

And the exploration budget has been cut to half the original estimation.

The company said that some cash outflow must be expected in the second half, given the substantial corporation tax payment to be made in October due to last year's much higher profits.

Twenty-three exploration and appraisal wells were completed in the first half, yielding

five new hydrocarbon discoveries.

Early developments are anticipated on four of Enterprise's projects.

The Ravenspurn North gas field depends on obtaining a suitable contract from the British Gas Corporation.

There are some small oil accumulations near Beryl which could be booked up to the main platform for production in 1988.

And, the commercial viability of the Miller oil field depends on what view is taken of the oil price in the 1990s by the consortium members.

Conveyancing costs to fall

The Land Registry is reducing its fees for processing registered land transactions from October 1. Thus, for 87 per cent of the population in England and Wales the cost of conveyancing will be cheaper; a typical saving would be £65 on the cost of registering a £70,000 conveyance.

Last year, the Registry recorded a surplus of more than £20 million. It estimates a surplus of some £16 million for the coming year, due to house price inflation.

More than half the land in England and Wales is either already registered or subject to compulsory registration.

Family Money, page 34

Parrish aims to establish a regional broking network

By Lawrence Lever

The realignment of stock-broking firms in the provinces received a boost from an unusual quarter yesterday when J T Parrish, a fully quoted shell company, announced it was buying two firms for £1.23 million.

The deal, which follows the formation of two regional brokerage groups earlier this year, is the prelude to Parrish developing a regional network of private client agency brokers.

It is paying £903,000 for the ten-partner private client firm of Dunkley Marshall. The firm made £428,000 profits before tax in its last financial year, although this swells to £777,000 if commissions earned by two new, but previously nominal, partners are included.

Parrish is also buying E F Matthews of Colchester, Essex, for £331,000. Matthews produced pretax profits of

£238,000 for its five partners in the 59 weeks to June 29.

Parrish shares were suspended at £10 immediately before yesterday's announcement, which was accompanied by a five-for-one scrip issue and a two-for-five rights issue at 160p which will raise £2 million net of expenses.

The company also announced half-year figures, showing profits before tax of £13,500 for the six months to July 31 (£52,000).

The overall effect of the capital restructuring and rights issue will give Parrish a market capitalization of £9.9 million—more than three times its value just over a year ago.

The company's business until recently comprised running a Newcastle department store and related property interests. It has close links with Mercantile House, the financial services conglomerate

which is itself expanding its brokerage network through its ownership of Alexanders Laing & Crickbank.

Two former main board directors of Mercantile House—Mr Keith Hughesdon and Mr Peter Bainbridge—took their shareholding in Parrish to 29.8 per cent of the company in August last year, and they announced their intention to develop it as a financial services group.

Alexanders Laing & Crickbank are brokers to the company, while Mercantile House has a 14.9 per cent stake in Speedley Securities, which itself owns almost 15 per cent of Parrish.

Mr Hughesdon yesterday denied that there was any conflict of interest arising from Mercantile's stake. "It is nothing other than a historic and trade investment. We don't see any conflict."

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FIVE YEAR RECORD — pence per stock unit

Year	Dividend	Net Asset Value
1982	9.60	351.4
1983	10.75	550.2
1984	12.50	575.5
1985	16.25	677.0
1986	18.50	898.0

Distribution of £173.7m of Assets at 31st July 1986.

UK	37%
USA	49%
OTHER	14%

Policy

- Steady growth of Income and Capital for stockholders from high quality, marketable investments.

Results

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- 33% rise in Net Asset Value to another year end record.
- Strong growth in numbers of stockholders.

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Declining stocks outnumbered advancing shares by the possibility of the market swinging in the other direction late in the day," he remarked.

"Nobody wants to look foolish by taking a position with the possibility of the market swinging in the other direction late in the day," he remarked.

COMPANY NEWS

- **MIRIVALE MOORE:** On the residential side, in association with Newgate, Mirivale Moore has exchanged contracts with Bata Holdings to buy a freehold estate of 198 tenanted houses at East Tilbury, Essex. The price paid was over £1 million.
- **TRIPLEX:** The company has acquired Trim Flooring from private shareholders for £250,000. Trim made a pre-tax profit of £104,000 in the year to June 30.

In 1987-88, the first full year for HW Spirits, Allie should report tax profits of

The company is looking for better results in the rest of the year, but there cannot be much more in BHP for the British investor.

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STOCK MARKET REPORT

Wellcome wins US go-ahead for AIDS drug programme

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

Wellcome, the British pharmaceutical group which made a Valentine's Day debut on the Stock Exchange, has at last been given the go-ahead for its revolutionary anti-AIDS drug, AZidothymidine.

A sub-committee of the American National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, which has been monitoring Wellcome's drug trials for ethical reasons, met in Washington on Thursday afternoon to discuss the latest batch of data submitted by the company. The institute has the power to call a halt to the trials at any time.

But at a press conference in Washington late yesterday it

● Latest talk from Hong-kong markets, closed yesterday for the mid-autumn festival, is that Hutchinson Whampoa is plying itself to make a bid for rival Incheap. Dealers have reported heavy buying of Incheap shares in the Colony in recent weeks. The shares were unchanged at 42 1/2 in London - just 10p shy of their year-high.

took the unprecedented step of giving the company permission to begin supplying the drug to patients on a "limited basis on compassionate grounds" before official approval is granted by the Federal Drug Administration.

First whispers of the good news among American investors took Wellcome's shares 10p higher to 207p, making a rise of 33p in the past week.

British dealers said most of the buying was being done by Americans for emotive reasons and that although it was good news for AIDS victims, it would be of comparatively

little commercial value to the company.

"We expect it to put around £35 million on sales in two years' time and some £8 million on to profits," Mr Stephen Plag, an analyst for Wood Mackenzie, the broker, says.

It should bring Wellcome's price/earnings ratio down from 27 at present to 20.

All other drug companies were lower on the day, in line with the rest of the stock market, apart from Glaxo which edged up 2p to 98 1/2p.

Fisons shares were down 10p to 56 1/2p, Smith & Nephew, after announcing a US acquisition, slid 7p to 117p and Beecham 3p down to 39 1/2p.

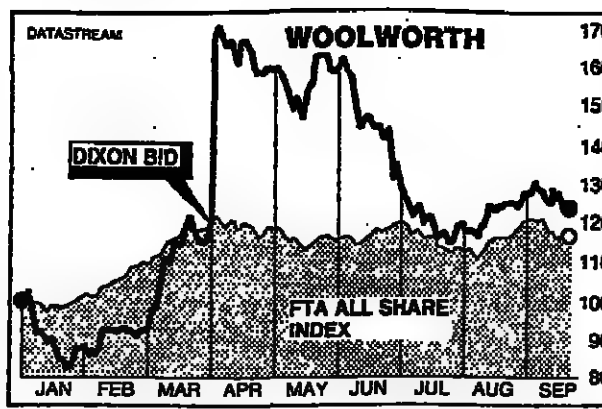
The FT 30-share index ended the day off its worst, down 10.5 at 1,269.1 with the broader-based FT-SE 100 index 13.8 lower at 1,600.4.

Currency worries lifted gold \$7 on the day to \$430 and gilts, although erratic, finished the day up 1/2 overall.

Among leading blue chip stocks, ICI was the only one to make sizeable gains, putting on 13p to reach 109 1/2p. Insurance was down 12p at 82 1/2p. Thorn EMI 5p lower at 47 1/2p. BP slid 10p to 64 1/2p.

GKN 5p to 26 1/2p and Guinness was also 5p lower at 32 1/2p.

Woolworth shares fell 5p to 64 1/2p on speculation that Dix-



ons had placed its 5 per cent holding but this has still not yet happened. Confirmation that three Woolworth directors have exercised options to sell shares worth £2.8 million and that Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, had placed part of its 4 per cent holding, did little to help.

Other retailers were slightly off colour on fears of higher interest rates. Storehouse was 5p lower at 64 1/2p and Ratners was also 5p down at 22 1/2p. Marks and Spencer was 3p worse at 200p and Next was a couple off at 250p.

The building sector was also in the doldrums ahead of a possible base rate rise with Lovell 5p off at 39 1/2p, Laing 4p lower at 39 1/2p and both Taylor Woodrow and J Mowlem 4p worse at 30 1/2p and 40 1/2p respectively.

London jobbers, sceptical of an official denial from the

Bank of America earlier this week that it was in difficulties, marked banks down with Lloyds falling hardest, down 10p to 434p, Barclays 8p lower at 484p, Midland 5p down at 567p and National Westminster down a similar amount to 534p.

Insurers, up in recent days on the back of the impending TSB flotation, lost ground coming down 10p to 150 1/2p, the Prudential losing 23p to 819p and Britannic easing 8p to 824p.

Composites followed suit with Girdhar Royal Exchange 20p down at 789p, Royal Insurance down 12p at 827p and General Accident 10p lower at 827p.

ICP continued to rise on bid speculation, putting on another couple of pence in busy trading to touch 488p. Other oils were mixed. Shell

also gained a couple to 893p while Barmah slid 4p to 362p. Another bid rumour stock, United Scientific, where both GKN and Pilkington have been mentioned as possible suitors, improved a further 8p to 168p.

News that the French investment bank Compagnie de Navigation Mixte has taken a 5 per cent stake in jeans manufacturer Lee Cooper, boosted its share price 10p to 228p.

Blue Circle Industries, Britain's biggest cement manufacturer, held steady at 556p despite growing speculation that it is preparing to reduce a large part of its 11,000-strong UK workforce. The group is already planning

● Shares of Dee Corporation fell 10p to 250p yesterday following a visit to the company by James Capel, the broker. Capel has reduced its estimate of pretax profits for the current year from £284 million to £194 million against £283 million last time. The market fears other brokers may also lower their estimates.

to make 300 lorry drivers redundant and sources within the industry claim another 1,750 jobs could be lost. But Blue Circle was quick to quash the more sensational reports of redundancies merely saying that its annual review of manning is currently underway.

Meanwhile, Allied Lyons fell another 8p to 308p now that the Australian brewer Elders IXL has decided to pay Hanson Trust £1.8 billion for its Courage brewing division instead of pursuing its £1.7 billion offer for Allied. Analysts have estimated that Allied might have eventually cost Elders over £3 billion following a drawn out contested bid.

Belhaven, the Scottish brewer, climbed 7p to 84p, on the news that Mr Raymond Miquel, the former boss of Bell's whisky has taken over as chairman and chief executive. Henry Ansbacher, the merchant bank, has, on Mr Miquel's behalf, snapped up a 17.5 per cent stake in Belhaven at a price of 85p a share. The stake came from Mr Tony Cole of Bestwood, who is believed to have made a seven-figure profit on the deal. Mr Cole announced that he held the stake only a couple of days ago. Mr Miquel ran Bell's until its takeover by Guinness.

Profit taking left Bess 7p lower at 72 1/2p, while Matthew Brown advanced 20p to 51 1/2p.

COMMENT Kenneth Fleet

Falling gilts strike at the new market

A state of war exists between the financial super powers - West Germany and Japan, on the one hand, and the United States on the other. As James Baker, US Treasury Secretary, is telling the world - to the ill-concealed fury of sophisticated at the British Treasury and Bank of England - the Americans want the dollar lower against the mark and the yen. They also want the West Germans and Japanese to cut their interest rates. Neither is prepared to yield, as is clear from heavy movements in the foreign exchange market.

Sterling is caught in the cross fire, wailing against the major currencies and inspiring fears of higher UK interest rates at a time when foreigners are becoming sensitive to shifts away from the Government in political fortunes.

The pound is not alone in its grief for related reasons prices in the gilt-edged market have taken a serious knock. So serious that the market is alive with stories of the huge losses some dealers have sustained, which are true, and rumours of an impending withdrawal from the market of one of the biggest firms, which so far have proved false.

The name trembling on every tip is the American giant Merrill Lynch. Not true, says David Rochester, in fact Bill Schreyer, chairman of the Thunderbird Herd, over from New York, had yesterday re-affirmed Merrill's commitment to the gilt-edged market where it is one of the 27 primary dealers lined up for big bang. The team lead by John Hutchinson remains in residence.

The situation in the market is, none the less, a cause for real concern. In 10 trading days between September 4 and

September 18 the Swiss-made Lombard-Odier index registered a rise in the yield on government stocks from 9.78 per cent to 10.75 per cent - a fall of a hundred basis points.

In this kind of market only the wise and the fortunate can have escaped losing a great deal of money. Their chances of keeping losses in bounds have been reduced by the harsher price adjustments made by the jobbers who, in the twilight of the old market, are not seeing nearly as much of the business as they used to do and are left to guess the weight and price significance of the big volume of trading taking place outside the Stock Exchange.

The worst scenario is of the new primary dealers taking in stock in order to build up a dealing book ahead of big bang on October 27. With prices collapsing they dump stock, with inevitable losses. These losses may be big enough to wipe out the primary capital firms have devoted to this market.

The American firms, in particular, have gone into the market in a big way, in preparation for throwing their weight at their rivals after October 27. One or more of the chosen 27 could decide that the game is not worth the candle and pull out of the race before the start. If a leading primary dealer did so the domino effect might be disastrous. Other firms might quickly follow suit, dumping their accumulated stocks as they made for the changing room.

The Bank of England knows - everyone knows - that there is simply not room for 27 profitable primary dealers in the new gilt-edged market. The sharp fall in gilts, unless it is arrested, may ease that problem.

Accolade for Lloyd's

Lloyd's insurance market is quietly coo-a-boop that the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh have agreed to preside at the official opening of the new Lloyd's building on November 18.

The Queen herself is not a name at Lloyd's. The new building was created by Richard Rogers, co-architect of the Pompidou Centre in Paris, maybe she will be tempted.

Acceptance by the Queen of the invitation has saved Lloyd's the embarrassment of inviting the second in line - the Prince of Wales. Given HRP's views on modern architecture, Richard Rogers' cranes in flight above an elegant oil refinery would have had everyone on tenterhooks.

On a more serious note, the royal seal of approval is a blessed relief to a once revered institution that has attracted more criticism in the last five years than the Church of England. Many Lloyd's watchers had doubted

whether a "top royal" would agree to come near the insurance market until the last of the great scandals had been sorted out.

The PCW affair is not sorted out and it is highly unlikely that it will be by November 18. Lloyd's has publicly stated that it hopes to reach a settlement by the end of this year. However, the scale of the losses and the PCW names' conviction that they have an excellent legal case against a host of defendants, including Lloyd's mean that a solution is far from easy.

The official opening will come just after Sir Patrick Neill, vice-chancellor of Oxford University, delivers his government-commissioned inquiry into the treatment of names at Lloyd's. Dignitaries at the insurance market will be keeping their fingers well crossed that nothing in the Neill report, expected at the end of next month, will spoil the party on November 18.

RECENT ISSUES

Hill Ergonom (82p)	85
Anglo Food (20p)	21
Mid East & C (100p)	23
Boots N/P	221-1
Marina Dev (110p)	110
Message Trans (75p)	75
Sandell Petrol (150p)	150
Scott Mfg 100% 225	221-1
Stanley Leisure (110p)	110
Thames TV (150p)	150
Treas 5 1/2% 2016 287	287-1/4
Unicost (83p)	83
Valerion (50p)	50
Vodafone TV (125p)	140

RIGHTS ISSUES

Barkley Tech N/P	221-1
Boots N/P	148-1
Brown & Tawes F/P	148-1
Cambridge Venture F/P	148-1
New Orl Nat Res N/P	148-1
Rush & Tomkins N/P	338-1/2
Tipitok N/P	44

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates	Market rates
1 month	1 month
3 months	3 months
6 months	6 months
12 months	12 months

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina dollar	1,548.1-1,553.8
Australia dollar	1,548.1-1,553.8
Brazil cruzeiro	20.26-20.41
Cyprus pound	7,080.0-7,090.0
Denmark krone	11.465-11.468
Greece drachma	194.53-195.67
Hong Kong dollar	11.465-11.468
India rupee	18.80-18.80
Iran riyal	0.4200-0.4200
Malaysia dollar	3.8734-3.8791
Mexico peso	1,080-1,130
New Zealand dollar	1.071-1.075
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.2220-5.2220
Singapore dollar	1.3181-1.3187
South African rand	4.2368-4.2368
U A E dirham	6.4085-6.4085

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

1 month	1.3743-1.3775
3 months	1.3743-1.3775
6 months	1.3743-1.3775
12 months	1.3743-1.3775

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Three Month Sterling	Open	High	Low	Close	Set Val
Dec 86	95.27	95.52	95.19	95.34	9127
Mar 87	95.28	95.53	95.20	95.47	9882
Jun 87	95.29	95.54	95.21	95.58	10637
Sep 87	95.30	95.55	95.22	95.69	11492
Dec 87	95.31	95.56	95.23	95.80	12347
Mar 88	95.32	95.57	95.24	95.91	13202
Jun 88	95.33	95.58	95.25	96.02	14057
Sep 88	95.34	95.59	95.26	96.13	14912
Dec 88	95.35	95.60	95.27	96.24	15767
Mar 89	95.36	95.61	95.28	96.35	16622
Jun 89	95.37	95.62	95.29	96.46	17477
Sep 89	95.38	95.63	95.30	96.57	18332
Dec 89	95.39	95.64	95.31	96.68	19187
Mar 90	95.40	95.65	95.32	96.79	20042
Jun 90	95.41	95.66	95.33	96.90	20897
Sep 90	95.42	95.67	95.34	97.01	21752
Dec 90	95.43	95.68	95.35	97.12	22607
Mar 91	95.44	95.69	95.36	97.23	23462
Jun 91	95.45	95.70	95.37	97.34	24317
Sep 91	95.46	95.71	95.38	97.45	25172
Dec 91	95.47	95.72	95.39	97.56	26027
Mar 92	95.48	95.73	95.40	97.67	26882
Jun 92	95.49	95.74	95.41	97.78	27737
Sep 92	95.50	95.75	95.42	97.89	28592
Dec 92	95.51	95.76	95.43	98.00	29447
Mar 93	95.52	95.77	95.44	98.11	30302
Jun 93	95.53	95.78	95.45	98.22	31157
Sep 93	95.54	95.79	95.46	98.33	32012
Dec 93	95.55	95.80	95.47	98.44	32867
Mar 94	95.56	95.81	95.48	98.55	33722
Jun 94	95.57	95.82	95.49	98.66	34577
Sep 94	95.58	95.83	95.50	98.77	35432
Dec 94	95.59	95.84	95.51	98.88	36287
Mar 95	95.60	95.85	95.52	98.99	37142
Jun 95	95.61	95.86	95.53	99.10	38000
Sep 95	95.62	95.87	95.54	99.21	38855
Dec 95	95.63	95.88	95.55	99.32	39710
Mar 96	95.64	95.89	95.56	99.43	40565
Jun 96	95.65	95.90	95.57	99.54	41420
Sep 96	95.66	95.91	95.58	99.65	42275
Dec 96	95.67	95.92	95.59	99.76	43130
Mar 97	95.68	95.93	95.60	99.87	43985
Jun 97	95.69	95.94	95.61	99.98	44840
Sep 97	95.70	95.95	95.62	100.09	45695
Dec 97	95.71	95.96	95.63	100.20	46550
Mar 98	95.72	95.97	95.64	100.31	47405
Jun 98	95.73	95.98	95.65	100.42	48260
Sep 98	95.74	95.99	95.66	100.53	49115
Dec 98	95.75	96.00	95.67	100.64	49970
Mar 99	95.76	96.01	95.68	100.75	50825
Jun 99	95.77	96.02	95.69	100.86	51680
Sep 99	95.78	96.03	95.70	100.97	52535
Dec 99	95.79	96.04	95.71	101.08	53390
Mar 00	95.80	96.05	95.72	101.19	54245
Jun 00	95.81	96.06	95.73	101.30	55100
Sep 00	95.82	96.07	95.74	101.41	55955
Dec 00	95.83	96.08	95.75	101.52	56810
Mar 01	95.84	96.09	95.76	101.63	57665
Jun 01	95.85	96.10	95.77	101.74	58520
Sep 01	95.86	96.11	95.78	101.85	59375
Dec 01	95.87	96.12	95.79	101.96	60230
Mar 02	95.88	96.13	95.80	102.07	61085
Jun 02	95.89	96.14	95.81	102.18	61940
Sep 02	95.90	96.15	95.82	102.29	62795
Dec 02	95.91	96.16	95.83	102.40	63650
Mar 03	95.92	96.17	95.84	102.51	64505
Jun 03	95.93	96.18	95.85	102.62	65360
Sep 03	95.94	96.19	95.86	102.73	66215
Dec 03	95.95	96.20	95.87	102.84	67070
Mar 04	95.96	96.21	95.88	102.95	67925
Jun 04	95.97	96.22	95.89	103.06	68780
Sep 04	95.98	96.23	95.90	103.17	69635
Dec 04	95.99	96.24	95.91	103.28	70490
Mar 05	96.00	96.25	95.92	103.39	71345
Jun 05	96.01	96.26	95.93	103.50	72200
Sep 05	96.02	96.27	95.94	103.61	73055
Dec 05	96.03	96.28	95.95	103.72	73910
Mar 06	96.04	96.29	95.96	103.83	74765
Jun 06	96.05	96.30	95.97	103.94	75620
Sep 06	96.06	96.31	95.98	104.05	76475
Dec 06	96.07	96.32	95.99	104.16	77330
Mar 07	96.08	96.33	96.00	104.27	78185
Jun 07	96.09	96.34	96.01	104.38	7

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

COMMODITIES

[illegible]

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check published on this page. If it matches you daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Reckitt-Hughes	Chemicals, Plastics	
2	Devenish (IA)	Breweries	
3	Kode	Electronics	
4	Western Selection	Electronics	
5	Richardson West	Electronics	
6	Scapa	Electronics	
7	Kwai-Fit	Motor, Aircraft	
8	Fenner (IH)	Electronics	
9	AB Elect	Electronics	
10	Trent	Building, Roads	
11	Harris (Phulp)	Industrial E-K	
12	Arlington Sea	Property	
13	Dalgety	Industrial A-D	
14	Concor Bros	Chemicals, Plastics	
15	Leigh	Chemicals, Plastics	
16	Ward	Building, Roads	
17	Hannam	Industrial E-K	
18	Br Borneo	Oil	
19	Inoco	Oil	
20	Walter	Paper, Printing	
21	Charterhall	Oil	
22	Goat Per	Food	
23	Glas Glover	Food	
24	Arlen	Electronics	
25	Clyde	Oil	
26	McKechine	Industrial E-K	
27	Crowther (J)	Textiles	
28	Bullough	Industrial A-D	
29	Br Syphon	Industrial A-D	
30	Octopus	Newspapers, Pub	
31	SA Breweries	Breweries	
32	Brecon & Cloud Hill	Building, Roads	
33	House of Leese	Draps, Stores	
34	NEI	Electronics	
35	Atlantic Resources	Oil	
36	Barlow Road	Industrial A-D	
37	Barclay (Wm)	Industrial A-D	
38	Dale Elect	Food	
39	Roxwate Mac	Food	
40	Grampian	Cinema, TV	
41	Thames TV	Cinema, TV	
42	Prest Marant	Property	
43	Hammerson	Property	
44	Stakis	Hotels, Catering	
45	Times Newspapers Ltd	Daily Total	

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	WEEKLY TOTAL

BRITISH FUNDS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

UNDATED

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

INDEX-LINKED

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1986	High	Low	Stock	Price	Change	%	%

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Share prices retreat

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on Monday. Dealings end next Friday. Contango day September 29. Settlement day October 6.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

BREWERIES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

FINANCE AND LAND

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

FOODS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

HOTELS AND CATERERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INDUSTRIALS A-D

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

CINEMAS AND TV

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

DRAPERY AND STORES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

ELECTRICALS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

INSURANCE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

LEISURE

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

Mining

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHOES AND LEATHER

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TEXTILES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TOBACCO

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PROPERTY

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHIPPING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

OIL

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000
Claims required for +37 points
Claims required for +186 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

OVERSEAS TRADERS

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERTG

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

PROPERTY

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHIPPING

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

SHOES AND LEATHER

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TEXTILES

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

TOBACCO

1986	High	Low	Company	Price	Change	%	%

Edited by Martin Baker

FAMILY MONEY/1

Self-Employed? These pension plans have given better returns more often than any other company's.

For the past nine years, Planned Savings magazine has compiled performance tables for 10 and 20 year regular premium with profits policies.

Of these 18 tables, The Equitable has topped 9 and been second in 4 more, a record not approached by any of our competitors.

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I'd welcome further details on your Self-Employed Pension Plans, with:
☐ Annual/Variable contributions; ☐ Monthly contributions;
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Address

Postcode

Date of Birth

Signature

Printed Name

Printed Address

Printed Postcode

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There's no need to go grey over TSB

SHARES

How do you have a market when you have nothing to buy and nothing to sell? Simple. You set up a grey market.

This is one of the weirder activities in the City and usually involves only professional institutional investors.

But there appears to be a grey market of some sort in Trustee Savings Bank shares, and some private investors are being tempted to dabble. When they did so just before the British Telecom flotation, many came to grief because they did not understand what the grey market was all about. Even if you do understand, think more than twice before using it.

As its name suggests, it is a somewhat shadowy entity. The idea is that shares in a company which is about to issue shares are traded before the actual flotation takes place. That means, of course, that all trades on the grey market (known as the pre-market in political circles) are only in notional shares — shares that do not yet exist.

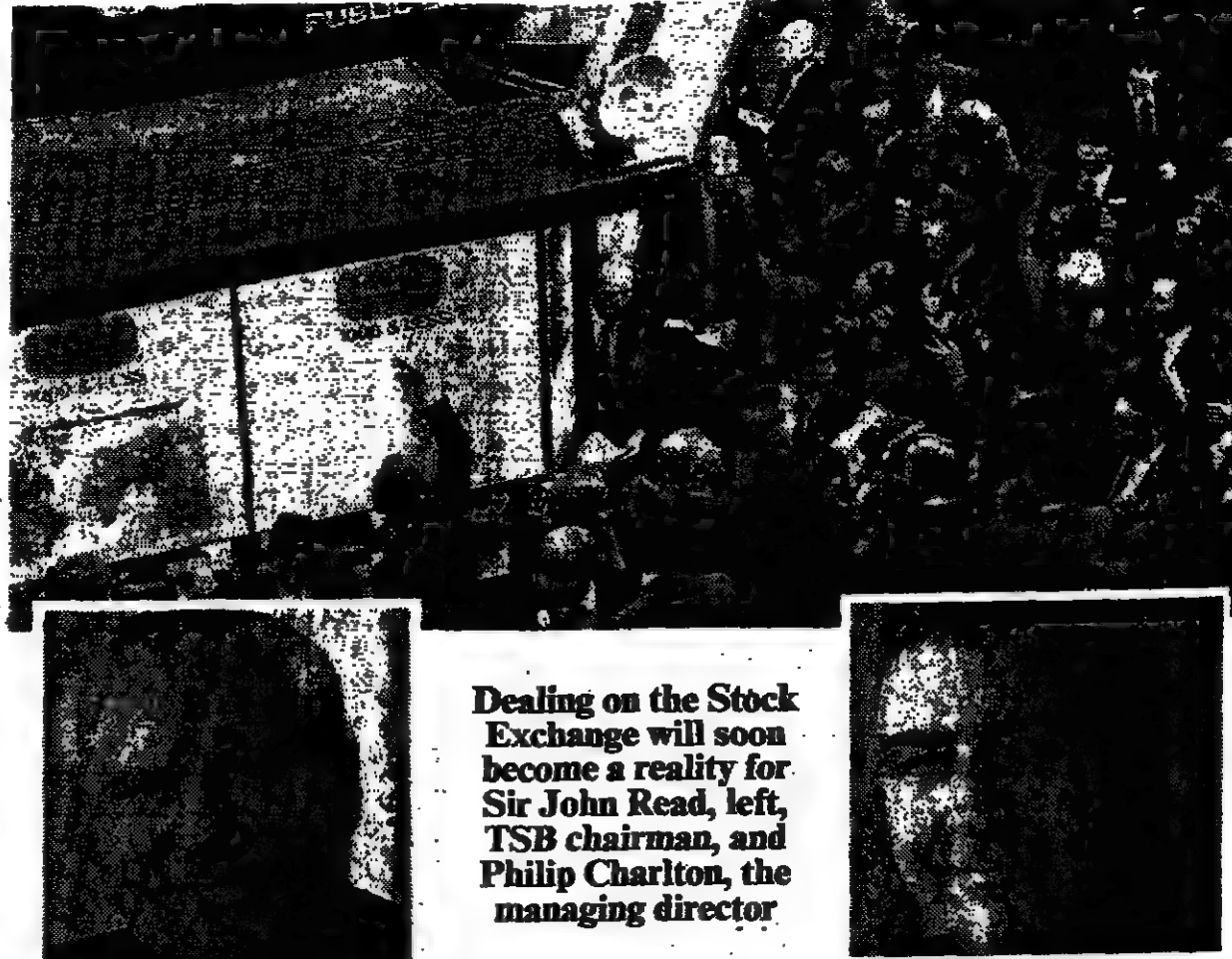
The market is, in effect, a place to speculate on the future movement of the price of the actual shares.

If you believe that the price of the shares, when issued, will not go as high as the price being quoted on the grey market, you sell. If you think the future price will go higher, you buy on the grey market.

At the moment there is only one licensed dealer, Cleveland, making a grey market in TSB shares. The prices it has quoted have ranged as high as 110p for every 50p paid TSB share.

"This is an exaggerated price," says Peter Thorne, of Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank. He believes the shares will rise to a substantial premium after the issue but that they will not go as high as that.

The trouble with the grey market is that if you sell shares, you still have to meet your obligation to hand them over to the buyer even if you



Dealing on the Stock Exchange will soon become a reality for Sir John Read, left, TSB chairman, and Philip Charlton, the managing director

are allotted no shares at all at the issue.

In that case you would have to buy them at whatever price they were offered in the full market once Stock Exchange trading begins — and you could end up seriously out of pocket. You would almost

'We are very careful who we deal with'

certainly not make the profit you had planned on by assuming that you would be allotted shares at the start.

Harvey Lawrence, a director of Cleveland, insisted that the company was aware of the problem of inexperienced investors using the grey market.

"The demand is from professional investors, people

who are used to dealing on the Stock Exchange and the pre-market," he says. "We are being very careful who we deal with. We don't want problems in the pre-market as happened with British Telecom."

"When someone rings up wanting to deal, we ask if he understands the market and we insist on a bank reference so that we know if he can afford it."

Mr Lawrence claims that turnover has been high, with up to 320,000 TSB shares traded on some days. The deals tend to be of around 10,000 each, and this suggests that the buyers and sellers are individuals. If they were institutions the size of deal would be far larger. Some brokers treat the market with frank disbelief.

"Deals of that size on the

grey market are absurd. I can't understand who the clients are," said one stockbroker.

Although grey markets are not illegal in this country, Stock Exchange rules forbid its members to participate in them.

With a premium of more than 100 per cent over the 50p partly paid issue price, it is easy to understand why people are being attracted on to the grey market.

But the pitfalls are obvious. With only one dealer making prices, it is hardly a "market" at all. It is not big enough or liquid enough to give a reliable price to the shares. You could easily, therefore, end up with quite unnecessary losses by trusting the grey market price and dealing.

It is unnecessary because anyone who gets shares in the TSB issue is virtually certain to see a profit, barring a sudden stock market collapse.

The big question ahead of the flotation is how many

shares to apply for to be sure of getting a decent quantity.

The issue has all the signs of being several times oversubscribed. The prospectuses and application forms have been a sell-out at TSB and Lloyds Bank branches and the TSB share information office

Apply for more than you want

has had more telephone calls than it can handle.

Oversubscription means that not all applicants will get all the shares they applied for, although the TSB is keen to give as much away to private investors as possible and give less to institutional investors than is normal on new share issues.

Those lucky enough to have priority status will be assured of getting some shares, however heavily subscribed the flotation.

John Hignett, a director of Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank handling the issue,

says: "We don't want to scale down the allocations to an amount so small that they are not worth having."

If you read between the lines, you will see that that probably means priority applicants will not get less than the minimum application of 200 shares even if applications have to be scaled down.

To supplement this, priority applicants wanting more shares should definitely also apply on white forms as members of the general public. They are allowed to do this under the terms of the issue.

Non-priority applicants, who get only one bite of the cherry, should probably apply for more shares than they want on the basis that their application will almost certainly be scaled down.

However, if they are going for a smallish amount, fewer than 1,000 shares, say, this may not be necessary. The normal system for scaling down allocations when flotations are oversubscribed is to use a sliding scale. The bigger the application, the more is lopped off it. Smaller applications are scaled down less severely and are more likely to be met in full.

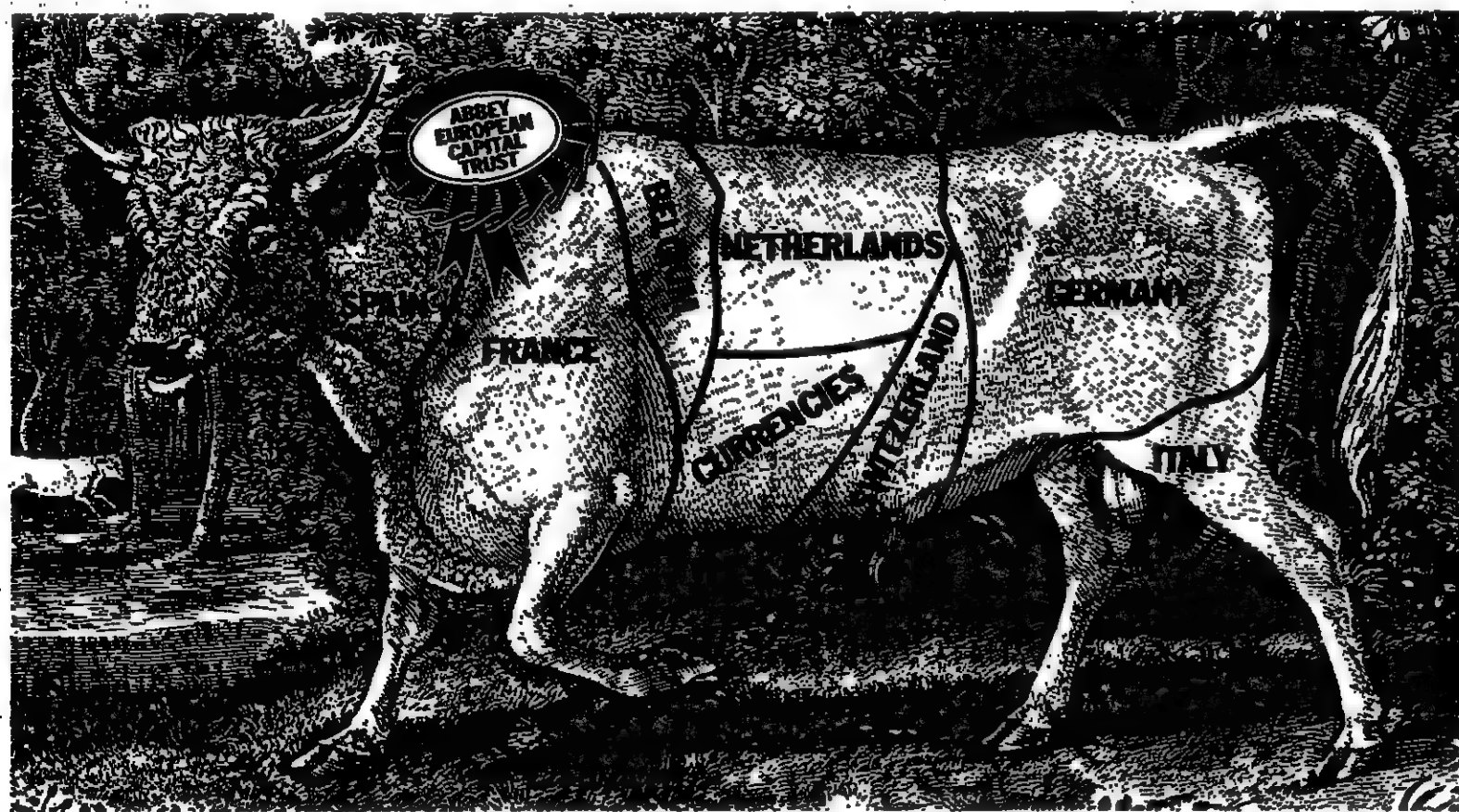
It is possible that the non-priority applications will go to a ballot, where applications are simply pulled out of a hat and the unlucky ones get nothing at all.

Or there could be a mixture of scaling down and balloting. In general, it is probably wise to apply for around twice the number of shares you want as long as that does not take you up to astronomical numbers.

The Telecom issue is instructive, though it is not necessarily the model for the allotment of TSB shares. No one got more than 800 Telecom shares, though people applying for 200 or 400 shares got their full amount. Those who wanted 800 actually got 500 and applicants for 1,200 got 600 shares. Anyone who applied for more than 100,000 shares got nothing at all.

The moral is, perhaps, that you should not be too greedy by being tempted to deal on the grey market or by applying for too many shares.

Richard Thomson
Banking Correspondent



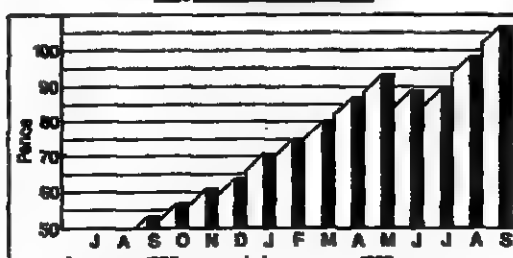
The way Abbey see it Europe looks in great shape

There's a distinctly bullish shape to Europe's stockmarkets at the moment. There's more stability than in the US or Far East, and less uncertainty in the economic outlook for Europe as a whole. And that means a good deal of further growth potential is there to be achieved for holders of units in our successful Abbey European Capital Trust.

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- European currencies are expected to remain firm against the pound.

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Application Form
To: Abbey Unit Trust Managers Limited,
80 Holden Road, Bournemouth BH8 9AL
(Registered Office)
Telephone dealing: 0145 71373 (Line 1)
Telephone enquiries: (0102) 297624

I/We enclose a cheque for £
(minimum £500) payable to Abbey Unit Trust
Managers Limited for investment in
Abbey European Capital Trust at the offer price ruling on
receipt of this application.

I am/were over 18 years of age.

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Postcode: _____
Date: _____

Just apply today! No stamp or signature
needed on this form.

Abbey Unit Trusts

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You should remember, of course, that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up. And you should look upon unit trusts as a medium to long term investment.

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FAMILY MONEY/2

Spend it while you save it

PENSIONS

When is a pension plan more than a pension plan? When it pays the mortgage, buys a business share or a new car, or possibly deals with the school fees. LIZ WALKINGTON looks at some of the options

Saving for one's declining years is something most of us would see as a sound, long-term idea. Anyone who is self-employed or in a job which does not carry any pension rights, or someone who has part-time earnings in either category, can take advantage of the considerable tax advantages of a personal pension plan.

Contributions to the plan, which may be up to 17.5 per cent of one's qualifying earnings, attract tax relief at the highest rate, and are invested in a fund which is itself tax-exempt. At retirement, the pension is taxed as earned income and part of it may be commuted to a cash sum that is entirely tax-free.

So far so good. The snag is that all the benefits come at retirement, and meanwhile the money put in is inaccessible. Hence many people may be reluctant to invest the maximum allowance just in case they may suddenly be in need of funds.

The problem, however, has not been overlooked by insurance companies. Almost six years ago Vanbrugh Life introduced what was then a revolutionary idea — a loan facility attached to its personal pension contract. Since then

Other collateral is usually required

the "loanback", as it is now called, has become a standard feature of most pension policies on the market.

The concept is based on the option to take part of the policy proceeds as a cash sum. The Inland Revenue will allow an amount up to three times the residual pension to be taken in this way, wholly free of tax. This can then be used to repay the loan.

A pension policy, however, cannot be assigned to another person, so some other form of collateral will usually be required. This could be a charge on property, or on stocks and shares. It may also be necessary to take out life assurance for the term of the loan, as cover against death before retirement.



ance for the term of the loan, as cover against death before retirement.

Of course, using the cash sum at retirement to repay a loan does mean that there is a smaller fund available to provide one's pension. However, if one can afford it, a loan of this type is highly tax-efficient. The money used to pay it off has accumulated from contributions which were subject to tax relief. The loan is therefore effectively repaid from pre-tax income.

Self-employed people may well be looking to raise money for business purposes, in which case tax relief will usually be available on the loan interest too. This applies, for example, if the loan is to provide capital for a business, or to purchase a share in a partnership.

However, a pension plan loan does not have to be business-oriented; it can be for purely domestic purposes. Children are notoriously expensive creatures — there could be a wedding to pay for,

a house to be bought with parental assistance, or the spectre of school fees on the horizon.

A number of brokers who specialize in school fees planning are prepared to set up a scheme based on a pension loanback. One example is the School Fees Funding Programme, recently introduced by Connaught Smith. The loan is secured against the borrower's home, and may be funded through a pension plan as well as other types of life assurance contract.

But there is a drawback in using a pension plan for school fees. Although a child's school years may seem to last for ever, it is likely they will finish well before the parent's retirement. If the pension policy is the only source of finance to repay the loan, the parent could find himself still paying the interest on it long after the child has left home, never mind school.

While a loan taken out against a pension plan may actually be repaid by some other means, it is as well to

view it as essentially a long-term commitment. It makes sense, then, that the money be put to some long-term purpose. A mortgage is particularly suitable in this respect, and also carries considerable tax advantages.

A pension mortgage works much like the loanback. During the term of the mortgage, the borrower pays only interest to the lender, and the advance is repaid in one lump sum at the end from the cash proceeds of the pension policy.

Since the full amount of the loan remains outstanding throughout, the tax relief on interest payments is maximized. Like any other, a pension mortgage qualifies for this relief on the first £30,000 of a loan. Where it scores over other types, though, is in the fact that contributions to the pension policy also attract tax relief.

This brings the net monthly payments down to much the same level as for other repayment methods, or possibly even less for a higher rate taxpayer. Meanwhile, the pension plan premiums are building up in a tax-exempt fund, and should produce a considerable sum. In fact, the policyholder may find that he can repay his mortgage, have some cash in hand left over, and receive a pension to boot.

A word of warning, though, before we all rush off to take out a pension loan. If it has to be repaid at a particular date, and no other funds are available, the borrower may have to cash in his policy before he is ready to retire, or at an inopportune moment in the market.

The policyholder's age is a factor

When a policy matures, the accumulated fund is converted to an annual pension according to annuity rates current at that time. These depend partly on the policyholder's age, but also on investment conditions and interest rates.

If annuity rates happen to be particularly low, then the pension will be correspondingly small. Moreover, since the cash sum that may be taken, is limited to three times the remaining pension, this too will be reduced. Hence the policyholder could find himself with insufficient cash to pay off his loan, as well as less pension than he expected.

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The British Stockmarket has been strong for a number of years, which is why many investors are now looking at overseas markets for new investment opportunities. But concentration in one particular area can produce very volatile investment results, and this year's high flier can often be next year's poor performer. You should be wary of short-term performance claims, such as the "Over 50% growth in just five months" quoted recently for a European unit trust.

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SECOND GENERAL PERFORMANCE TABLE			
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Date	M&G SECOND	F.T. Ordinary Index	Building Society
5 June '56	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
31 Dec '66	£2,996	£2,472	£1,699
31 Dec '76	£7,812	£3,859	£3,437
5 June '86	£67,208	£21,042	£8,104

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 120% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G SECOND GENERAL figures are realisation values.

To celebrate M&G SECOND's thirty-year performance record we are offering an extra 1% unit allocation if you invest £1,000 or more and 2% if you invest £10,000 or more in any of these three unit trusts before 31st October 1986.

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Launch Date	M&G Unit Trust	Building Society	
International Income	May '85	£1,238	£1,105
International Growth	Dec '67	£12,375	£4,585

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 120% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G figures are realisation values.

FURTHER INFORMATION (On 17th September 1986 offered prices and estimated gross current yields were)

	Income	Accumulation	Yield
International Income	63.5p	85.2p	5.32%
International Growth	792.9p	1276.5p	1.63%
SECOND GENERAL	758.9p	1498.0p	3.74%

The prices and yields appear daily in the Financial Times. The difference between the offered price (at which you buy units) and the bid price (at which you sell) is normally 6%. An initial charge of 5% is included in the offered price and an annual charge of up to 1% of each fund's value — currently 0.48% (except for International Income, which is 1%) — plus VAT is deducted from gross income. Income for Accumulation units is reinvested to increase their value and for Income units it is distributed net of basic-rate tax on the following dates:

	International Income	International Growth	SECOND
Distributions	1 June	20 Mar	15 Feb
	1 Dec	20 Sep	15 Aug
Next distribution for new investors	1986	20 Mar	15 Feb
	1987	1987	1987

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. The Trustee for International Income is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for International Growth is M&G International Growth Fund Trust Co. Limited. The Funds are all under long-term investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

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Up to £2,500	6.40% - 9.00%	6.10% - 6.27% - 8.83%
Up to £5,000	7.40% - 10.42%	7.10% - 7.33% - 10.32%
Up to £20,000	8.20% - 11.55%	7.90% - 8.19% - 11.54%
Over £20,000	8.50% - 11.97%	8.10% - 8.41% - 11.85%

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VATman swoops on model

TAX

Dallying over your returns will soon bring the Customs and Excise to your door — and they won't take excuses, warns SUSAN FIELDMAN

Jo-Anne Neal, aged 19, started her first job as a model on April 29 last year and soon began to earn lots of money. On March 12 this year she registered for VAT — and discovered that success has its darker side. The Customs and Excise argued that she should have registered by October 21, 1985, and demanded a £212.34 penalty for lateness.

Miss Neal appealed against the penalty at a VAT tribunal. She claimed she had a "reasonable excuse" for being late because of the unusual way she was paid by her modelling agency. She said there was no way she could have known that she should have registered at October 21. The Customs and Excise was not impressed.

A lawyer acting for her, Lesley Lloyd-Eley of VATAX, explains: "She had a rough idea of what she was earning based on vouchers given to her by the agency. But the client, or agency, could subsequently renegotiate the fee. The agency prepared the invoices from the vouchers, but until a model was registered for VAT, their policy was not to supply the models with a copy of the invoices."

Section 15 of the 1985 Finance Act does allow the defence of "reasonable excuse" but, perhaps

not surprisingly, it does not define what it is.

The tribunal refused to accept Miss Neal's argument. VATAX, which handles about 10 per cent of all VAT appeals, has decided to take the case to the High Court.

Customs and Excise would not comment fully on the case, but a spokesman did say: "We have not spelled out what is a reasonable excuse because the circumstances with individual traders vary so much."

You may feel the regulations are already fairly tough, but new procedures are coming into effect which increase the powers of the VATmen. The 1985 Finance Act introduced new penalties for delay in registering for and paying VAT. Since last summer, there have already been about 3,000 penalty notices issued for late registration.

If you are registered for VAT, make sure you do not delay sending in your VAT return and cheque for payment. The new default procedure starts on October 1. The first returns to which it will apply are those due on or after this date.

John Brown, of chartered accountants Arthur Young, explains: "You have two bites of the cherry before you get hit. If you pay quarterly, and you are late twice in any 12-month period, then the Customs and Excise can serve a surcharge liability notice on you. If after service of the notice you are late again, there is an automatic penalty, which starts at 5 per cent of the VAT owed, with a minimum of £30, and can climb to a maximum of 30 per cent."

The only way you can wipe your slate clean is not to default again for a whole 12-month period from service of the notice. But you can escape the penalty if you can show that you had a reasonable excuse for

not sending in the VAT return and payment.

Once again, reasonable excuse is not defined. But the Act is clear that trying to blame someone else such as your accountant for the delay will not get you off the hook. Neither will not having enough money be a reasonable excuse.

So what is a reasonable excuse? Ian Somerville, of chartered accountants Deloitte Haskins and Sells, has discussed the new proposals with the Customs and Excise. They agreed that if they had a problem with their computer, this would be the sort of difficulty that would stop a responsible employer, the equivalent of interest on a delayed repayment.

"We then asked them what would happen if a trader had a breakdown in his computer. Would this be a reasonable excuse for his late pay-

Tightening-up of procedures

ment? The initial reaction of the Customs was that they were not sure that they could see a parallel between the two situations."

If you know that there will be a problem with late payment, it is always a good idea to go and see your local VAT office in advance.

The tax solicitor Patrick Way says: "The new rules all point to a tightening-up of procedures. That means a VATable person must register, and pay, on time — otherwise he is for the high jump."

See booklet: VAT: Brief, from Arthur Young, 7 Rolls Buildings, Fetter Lane, London EC4, and Finance Act 1985, from Deloitte Haskins and Sells, PO Box 207, 128 Queen Victoria Street, London EC4.



Taxman's target: Jo-Anne Neal quickly made money as a model, but was late registering for VAT. Her "reasonable excuse" was rejected

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OBSERVER 15th Dec '85

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SUNDAY TIMES 4th May '86

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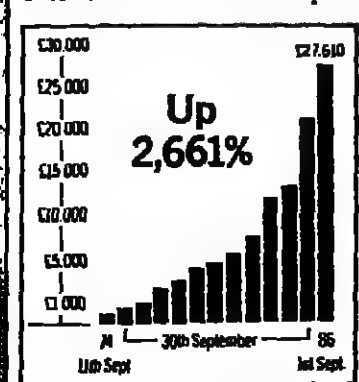
THE TIMES 5th July '86

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MONEY MAGAZINE August '86

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Gold or commodities haven?

The world's stockmarkets are moving erratically even by their own standards, writes Martin Baker, who examines whether gold and commodities might be a safe place of refuge.

We are not entering a new golden age. At least not yet. The fund managers and investment analysts in the gold and commodities field are talking of corners being turned — several rungs down the ladder of optimism from phrases such as "new era".

Gold has taken two great leaps forward of roughly 20 per cent over the last few weeks and the consensus

seems to be that those gains will be held.

"The prospects are reasonably good," says Mike Long of stockbrokers Howe & Pittman. "Gold is on the foothills of the Himalayas. It should appreciate steadily."

There are parallels between recent nervousness about shares and the fall-scale panic which caused the sharp declines of 1974. It was then that gold and other commodities such as oil and base metals began to soar.

But Mr Long is adamant that those days will not return, at least for the moment. "We have very low inflation and very high interest rates, which

makes a strong case for putting money on deposit. That is the major disincentive from investing in commodities — money on deposit is more than retaining its value."

Dylan Evans of Target, however, feels that the emphasis, certainly in America, is on avoiding a recession even if this means an increase in inflation.

For Mr Evans, the corner has been turned in several vital respects: "We've reached the low point in inflation and, after recent events on Wall Street, in interest rates. Therefore I think we can say that commodities are probably gently past their worst point."

COMMODITY & ENERGY FUNDS

As at September 18, 1986

Three Months	One Year	Five Years
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MM Gold & Precious Met +31.2	LEG Natural Resources +24.5	Allied Duncker Metals +23.0
Schroder Gold +31.1	MM Gold & Precious Met +19.8	M&G Commodity & Gen +18.9
M&G Gold & Gen +22.4	S&P Exploration +18.8	Lloyds Energy Int'l +18.1
Target Gold Income +16.5	Schroder Gold +12.4	Midland Commodity & Gen +14.8
Brianston Gold & Gen +17.8	Midland Commodity & Gen +14.9	S&P Commodity +14.4
Henderson Gold +12.5	Target Gold +14.5	Henderson Global Res +10.9
Garmon Gold +11.7	Abbey Commodity & Energy +14.1	S&P Exploration +1.8
John Spence Gold +11.8	Garmon Gold +13.7	Tyndall Natural Res +1.8
EFM Investment +11.8	IG Services/Industrial Res +13.6	Target Commodity -3.4
Sector average* +6.7	Sector average* 14.7	Sector average* -1.2

Three Months	One Year	Five Years
Garmon Oil & Energy +5.4	MM Universal Energy +16.7	S&P Energy Industries +17.5
Henderson Global Res +3.8	S&P Energy Industries +16.8	Atlanta World Energy +21.6
Attam World Energy +3.3	New Court Energy Res +21.8	New Court Energy Res +36.5
Target Energy +2.7	Target Commodity +22.7	MM Universal Energy +30.6
New Court Energy Res +11.5	Target Energy +20.2	Target Energy +40.8

* Prices are after tax and income reinvested

Source: Capital Statistics

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FREE GUIDE TO GILTS



"Do you, MIM, one of the UK's most successful investment management companies, take thee Britannia, to be joined as a lawfully wedded company?"

—TDO—

"Do you promise to manage your combined funds of nearly £1 billion with the vigour that has made you Money Observer's best investment trust group of 1985?"

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"Will you strive to maintain the performance of your UK Market Features Unit Trust, which is up 66.7% in one year?"

—I WILL—

"Will you endeavour to improve the performance of your Japan Unit Trust which, over 2 years, out of 649 funds, was a mere 2nd?"

—I WILL—

"Will you do this in good times and in lean, for bull or for bear, for richer and richer?"

—I WILL—

"Do you, Britannia, one of the UK's largest and best known unit trust companies, take thee MIM, to be joined as a lawfully wedded company?"

—TDO—

"Do you promise to continue to offer the widest range of unit trusts and to maintain an outstanding service to your 165,000 investors?"

—TDO—

"Will you share all your worldly experience and marketing skills?"

—I WILL—

"Will you strive to maintain the investment success that has made your Property Shares Trust the best performing fund in its sector?"

—I WILL—

"Will you do this in good times and in lean, for bull or for bear, for richer and richer?"

—I WILL—

"I now pronounce you Britain's most dynamic unit trust company."



MIM BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LIMITED

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL FREE ON 0800 010 333 OR WRITE TO MIM BRITANNIA UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD., FREEPOST, 74/78 FINSBURY PAVEMENT, LONDON EC2A 1JD

FAMILY MONEY 4

Scottish fund men distil the Highland cash

Forget Burns Night, the whisky and the haggis. The patriotic Scot can now express his or her nationalist fervour by investing in a range of funds run exclusively by Scottish fund managers. The Scottish Managed Fund is rather optimistically juxtaposed in its promotional material with brilliant Scottish inventions such as the steam engine, penicillin and (more dubiously) television. The basic idea is to provide access to the management skills of such companies as Scottish Equitable, Scottish Widows and the Life Association of Scotland through the medium of a single premium investment bond.

A minimum lump sum of £1,000 will be apportioned between the funds, although there is a savings scheme which will accept as little as £20 a month. Charges are 5 per cent initially and roughly 1.5 per cent annually. The bonds are rather similar to unit trusts in more than just the charging structure. Both provide exposure to a spread of shares, while bonds can also invest in property. The key difference from the investor's point of view is that they tend to benefit the higher-rate taxpayer, while most basic-rate taxpayers will be slightly better off with unit trusts.

Details: Save & Invest, 161 Hope Street, Glasgow G2 2UQ (041-204 2191).



The Sheffield Building Society has added half a point to its investment rates and, in a fit of autumnal generosity, shaved 0.25 per cent off its mortgage rate for new borrowers. The nominal mortgage rate is 10.75 per cent, while the society's 90-day notice account has a nominal rate of 8.75 per cent. The chairman's high-interest account, which topped the interest rate table in our recent survey of finance for youngsters, now offers a tempting 9.75 per cent.

Details: SBS, 66 Campo Lane, Sheffield S1 2EG (0742 25588).

Cashing in

The National and Provincial is the latest big building society to hint at what it plans to do with the financial freedoms thrust into its lap by the Building Societies Act, which comes into force next year.

It will offer further advances secured on your house, or an unsecured personal loan to buy a car, boat, or the latest in designer tastelessness.

Alternative savings media — including personal equity plans, unit trusts and shares — will be available, as will cheque accounts backed by a guarantee card. The greatest drawback of building society cheque accounts at present is their inability to guarantee cheques. Insurance and foreign

exchange services will be available to customers. Companies will be offered a relocation service and a variety of company savings schemes.

The society's plans must be ratified by a general meeting of members on November 4.

Penalty claws

We highlight elsewhere in this issue some of the problems and penalties awaiting those who fall foul of the VATman. To help the small businessman, accountants Peat Marwick have produced a well-designed, clearly-written guide on what needs to be known. And unfortunately one needs knowledge of VAT, despite its strong claims to be the most boring topic in finance or any other area.

There is a surcharge of up to 30 per cent on late payments, hence, as Peat Marwick says: "Every businessman should have a grasp of the fundamentals." Peat Marwick's fundamentals can be grasped free by writing to the firm at 1 Puddle Dock, Blackfriars, London EC4V 3PD.

Lending boom

The investment legend is that the unsophisticated investor always buys in at the top of the market and bales out at the bottom. Professionals know better, of course, otherwise why would we entrust our money to them? Home loan institutions entrust their money to us, so they should be doubly sure of their market.

There are now more than 300 lenders in the UK mortgage market and the numbers are mushrooming as rapidly as the fears of a collapse in house prices.

The latest lender in the market is Devonshire Life which is operating a scheme in association with Mortgage Trust, a subsidiary of Scandinavian Bank plc. Would-be borrowers can apply for the loans only through an intermediary.

They are promised a swift decision on whether or not to lend, and the choice between low start loans at 11.6 per cent annual percentage rate (APR) or level interest loans at 11.5 per cent APR. Level interest loans allow a couple to borrow three times one income, plus the secondary income up to 95 per cent of the house valuation. The low start loans allow borrowings of three-and-a-half times primary income, plus secondary income of

up to 85 per cent of the security property. Details through an intermediary: Devonshire Life (01-434 3511); Mortgage Trust (01-439 1899).

Tax bargain

The latest edition of *Tolley's Tax Guide* will save you £1.50 immediately if you rush out and buy it today. The price of the 1986-87 edition, written by tax gurus Arnold Horner and Rita Burrows, is on offer at £12.45 but goes up to £13.95 tomorrow.

The authors of the book, which is written specifically for the non-expert, hope they can save you rather more as they guide you through the tax jungle. Particular regard is paid to the latest inclusions of the decision fiscal foliage, such as inheritance tax and the PEP equity investment plan, while the usual thorough treatment is also given to the way the tax system affects your home, family, employment and investments. Shoppers of the book can also receive free of charge the *Tolley* year-end and tax planning memorandum and a 1987 budget summary which *Tolley* claims will be mailed within 24 hours of Nigel Lawson delivering his usual mixture of good news/bad news in the House of Commons.

Inflation gain

The fear of surging inflation which almost blew the house down on Wall Street earlier this month seems also to have benefited sales of index-linked National Savings Certificates. Investors bought £30 million worth of the inflation-proof certificates in August, when the fourth issue



was launched, the highest sum for a year. Sales of the third issue totalled just £5 million in July. The fourth issue's tax-free return is equal to the growth in the retail price index plus 4.04 per cent over a five-year period, which makes 6.44 per cent at the present inflation rate. A good bet if you believe you'll see inflation on the up again, but the ordinary fixed-interest certificates are offering more at the moment. The thirty-first issue pays 7.85 per cent, again tax-free, over five years and seems likely to stay on the market for a little while now that hopes of interest rate cuts have faded away. Sales of the thirty-first issue fell from £57 million to £50 million in July but a revival can be expected this month after the decision to double the maximum holding to £10,000.

L & G trust offer

Legal & General now has 12 unit trusts on offer to the public. This week L & G pushed out the Managed Trust, Japanese Trust and International Bond Trust. The managed fund will look to invest in shares and fixed interest instruments both at home and abroad. The International Bond Trust will, as its name suggests, concentrate on bonds, investing principally in major fixed interest markets around the world. The Japanese Trust is launched with a curious sense of timing, few analysts are predicting much for Japan in the immediate future. The fund "intends to take advantage of the changes in character within the Japanese economy which it anticipates will occur over the next two years." The minimum investment in each of the funds is £1,000, with a standard initial charge of 5 per cent and a monthly management charge of 1/2 per cent. This is an annual percentage rate of slightly more than 1 per cent.

Teller tale

Yet more looting from the building societies ahead of next year's freedoms. The newly amalgamated Birmingham Midshires Building Society has decided to throw its lot with the LINK network of automatic teller machines, alias ATMs or holes in the wall. Birmingham Midshires is joining 114 other building societies and savings institutions to provide what is hoped to be more than 900 access points for LINK members. The number of cardholders able to use the system by next year is estimated at three million.

90 DAYS

UP TO

8.50% NET

8.68% compounded annual rate

30 DAYS

8.00% NET

8.16% compounded annual rate

When time is money, here's your best choice.

Premier Ninety

90 days' notice will mean £1,000+ minimum earns a high rate of 8.25% net pa. And £10,000+ picks up the premier rate of 8.50% net pa. With interest paid twice yearly into your account, these compound to a very interesting 8.42% and 8.68% net pa respectively.

Of course, you can opt to take your interest as regularly income instead.

90 days' notice protects your interest but immediate access is available, subject to 90 days' loss of interest on the amount withdrawn.

Premier Thirty

On just 30 days' notice your money earns a full 8.00% net pa with a minimum investment of £1,000. Immediate access to your money means only the loss of 30 days' interest on the amount you take out.

But keep £10,000+ in your account and you can take your money anytime without penalty.

Interest is paid twice yearly and, left in your account, compounds to a timely 8.16% net pa.

So now's the time to make your best choice ever. Simply complete the coupon and post it today.

To Birmingham Midshires Building Society, FREEPOST, Wolverhampton W1V 1BN. (No stamp needed.) I/we enclose a cheque no. _____ for £____ to be invested in "Premier Ninety/Premier Thirty" (minimum investment £1,000). (Dates to apply. The Society will acknowledge receipt of your cheque within seven days.)

INTEREST PAYMENT METHOD (Please tick box)	PREMIER NINETY	PREMIER THIRTY
Paid to me/our Monthly Income, to my/our Bank Account or Birmingham Midshires Basic Account.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Credited to my/our Premier Account.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paid to my/our Bank Account by credit transfer.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paid to me/our by cheque, providing the account is ASOR account.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Signature: _____ Name: _____ Code: _____

Branch Name: _____

Bank Account No: _____

Please send (from your Premier Ninety/Premier Thirty letter).

Name: _____ Address: _____ Post Code: _____

Birmingham Midshires Building Society

We've got together. You've got to gain.

Birmingham Midshires Building Society has been created by the merger of Birmingham and Bridgwater, and Midshires Building Societies.

Chief Administrative Office: PO Box 11, 15-19 Lockwood Street, Wolverhampton W1V 1BZ. Tel: (0902) 30711. Full member of the Building Societies Association and Investors Protection Scheme Assets covered £116.6 million. Interest on savings of 8.00% net pa may vary.

Only best will do

You will be pleased to know that when the Financial Services Bill finally translates into law, intermediaries and advisers will be obliged to provide us all with "best advice".

The practical effect of this should be that if you want, for example, an insurance policy as protection for your mortgage, possessions or life, the person advising you must do two things. First, he or she must travel through the products on the market to see which appears to give best value. Second, there should be an examination of your finances to discover what your individual needs and resources are.

The theory goes that you will then receive "best advice". Theories of course tend to work best on paper. There will be little hope of your receiving best advice if your adviser does not have the skills to analyse your finances or the products on the market properly. One way of checking on the smooth-talkers who promise you riches might be to ask if they have a qualification from the newly instituted College of Financial Planning. Recipients of the college's diploma will have studied six "modules" which cover the spectrum of financial planning from risk management to estate planning.

(The course is designed "in part to provide a means of proving their competence for the smaller, independent inter-

mediary or professional adviser".

The course proper starts next year. At the moment the college is confining itself to a series of seminars. Costs for students who do all their work at home, Open University style, will be £400 plus VAT. Optional residential courses jump the charges up considerably. Details: College of Financial Planning, International House, World Trade Centre, 1 St Katharine's Way, London E1 9UN.

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To County Financial Services, 241 Fulham Road, Manchester, M20 6ET. Tel: 061-265 4471 (24 hrs. Answered).

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Ref: (Daytime) _____

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Address: _____

Information Required: ☐ CIRCULAR ☐ CIRCULAR

Hargreaves Lansdown, Unit Trust Advisory Service, Grosvenor House, Grosvenor Street, Bristol BS1 1BB. Tel: (0272) 741300. (Current details in prospectus. Member of Hargreaves).

INVESTMENT BONDS

If you would like to receive full details of an actively managed investment fund, which has achieved exceptional net growth of 28.83%, since inception, simply complete the coupon below.

EASY ACCESS TO YOUR MONEY 7 DAYS. 1% DISCOUNT GIVEN ON ALL BONDS.

TO: SHUBBA JAMES FINANCIAL BROKERS LIMITED, 22 CHURCHILL WAY, CARDIFF, SOUTH WALES. Tel: (0222) 372237

FROM: MR/MRS/MS/MISS ADDRESS: _____

PLEASE SEND ME WITH NO OBLIGATION WHATSOEVER, DETAILS OF THE CAPITAL INVESTMENT FUND. I UNDERSTAND NO SALESMAN WILL CALL.

هكذا ان الامر

FAMILY MONEY/5



Studies without stress: properly arranged finances can keep these college days calm

Tax? A gift to students

COVENANTS

Mists and mellow fruitfulness go unnoticed when requests for school fees arrive. Parents become decidedly less aware of autumnal delights when they fork out for the university education of their children.

But they should not remain blind to the extraordinary advantages of the covenant in helping to meet such payments. For parental contributions to student grants range from £205 based on gross earnings of £10,000 (after certain allowances), to £2,332 on £20,000 and the maximum of £4,300 on earnings of £28,000.

The covenant is a concession from the Inland Revenue. It is likely to be regarded, therefore, as a kind of Trojan horse, treated with care if not downright suspicion. Yet the deed of cov-

enant is simple to arrange and one of the most efficient tax arrangements around.

Furthermore, the Revenue produces the document which transforms it, temporarily, into a generous fiscal sugar-daddy. In this guise it issues leaflet IR 47 with do-it-yourself forms and a Students' Tax Information Pack, IR 59, both free at tax offices.

A promise that is legally binding

A covenant deed is a promise. When correctly worded it creates a legally binding document. One person (the covenantor) promises, for nothing in return, to pay a series of income payments to another.

To gain the maximum advantage from such a promise, the covenantor must be at least a basic taxpayer, and the person who receives the payments must pay no or little tax.

By transferring part of his income, the covenantor lessens his total earnings and, therefore, his tax liability. If he promises to pay £1,000 gross

out of income he actually parts with £710 (£1,000, less income tax at 29 per cent = £710).

The person who receives £710, reclaiming £290 from the Revenue. In this way, although only £710 has been paid, it becomes £1,000 to the beneficiary. Tax efficiency is maximized when the income of the person who receives the payments does not exceed the single person's allowance of £2,335.

Parents' income is amalgamated with that of their children under 18, so transfers to children under that age are tax-efficient only if made by grandparents or similar generous givers.

Transfers to a wife are not beneficial either, because the income remains that of the covenantor, and married couples are treated as one tax unit. But this unity helps if a father covenants to help their children at university and later loses his job. His working wife can continue the payments without making new covenants and the tax concession remains.

Student grants are not taxable, but certain social security benefits and holiday earnings may be. Care must be taken, therefore, that money saved through covenants is not lost by another route. (See *Covenants for Students*, £1 from the NUS, 461 Holloway Road, London N7 6LF).

The Inland Revenue is concerned with the tax aspects of the covenants so there are certain restrictions, rigid but not irksome, on its use. As well as being "signed, sealed and delivered" to ensure that it is legally enforceable, it must be "capable" of exceeding six years.

This does not invalidate a contract that runs for only three. If an 18-year-old student leaves university after three years, the deed is still effective because the student could have continued in full-time education for a further four.

The deed must be signed and witnessed (except by a

beneficiary) and except in Scotland where covenants must be written "adopted as holographs" above their signature if it is not in their own handwriting.

Money payments must be paid in the amounts and dates stated on the deed. They cannot be increased or backdated. If income tax drops significantly, make out another covenant even if this means different payment dates for the two. If income drops (perhaps because of retirement), tax benefit remains so long as earnings exceed allowances.

The covenantor must not benefit in any way from the deed. When it has been signed and sealed, keep two copies, one for yourself, and one for the donee. Send the original with form R185, obtainable from your tax office, and the agreed money payment when due, to the recipient, who can

Unit trusts can boost payments

claim on form R40 the tax paid.

Any covenanted payments are considered as exempt transfers for the purpose of inheritance tax, or potentially exempt transfers under the provisions of the 1986 Finance Act. They are also exempt from CGT, being regarded as gifts. No stamp duty is payable on the deed itself.

Income from covenants, whether for students or other recipients, can be further boosted by using them with unit trusts from any of the big groups.

Gartmore runs a Money Building scheme into which payments can be made for covenants through any of its 19 authorized unit trusts. In order to attract new savers, a handbook is provided similar to those used by building societies, as well as information on the covenant scheme itself.

Jennie Hawthorne

Less cheques. More interest.

A cheque account where the very last thing you want to do is write a cheque. It sounds like a strange idea. But when you consider we are talking about a high interest cheque account, the concept starts to make more sense. The Allied Arab Bank have combined all the advantages of a day-to-day current account with the beneficial rates of a City-related market. All you need is £5,000 to open the account. We can offer you an interest rate of 10.125% gross (7.57% net),

whilst you enjoy the comfort of knowing your money is immediately accessible whenever you need it. There's no loss of interest or penalties for short-notice withdrawals. We can even arrange payments by standing order or direct debit without any extra charge. Of course, the longer the money stays in, the greater the interest accumulated. Which means there is only one thing to discourage you from taking your money out. You.



Allied Arab Bank

The Allied Arab Bank Limited, FREEPOST London EC4B 4HS (no stamp required if posted within the United Kingdom). Please send me full details of your HIGH INTEREST CHEQUE ACCOUNT.

Name _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Signature _____
Allied Arab Bank Limited, General House, 27-28 Cannon Street, London EC4A 3DF, Tel 01-360 6111

Over 55? Why not enjoy a tax free income?

Life may begin at 40, but tax free income for you begins at 55.

That is, if you have invested in the right place. You see, we have a plan for turning taxed investment income into tax free income.

This is particularly good news for those of you retired or semi-retired with lump sums of £10,000 or more and wanting to maximise income in the most tax efficient manner, without losing control of capital.

And your capital appreciates without personal Capital Gains Tax. In fact, we can also arrange that the proceeds of one particular plan are paid free of Inheritance Tax to your heirs.

Surely this is worth looking into. It's no more bother than a building society account.

We are one of the largest independent firms of personal financial advisers in the U.K. offering specialist help for nearly 50 years.

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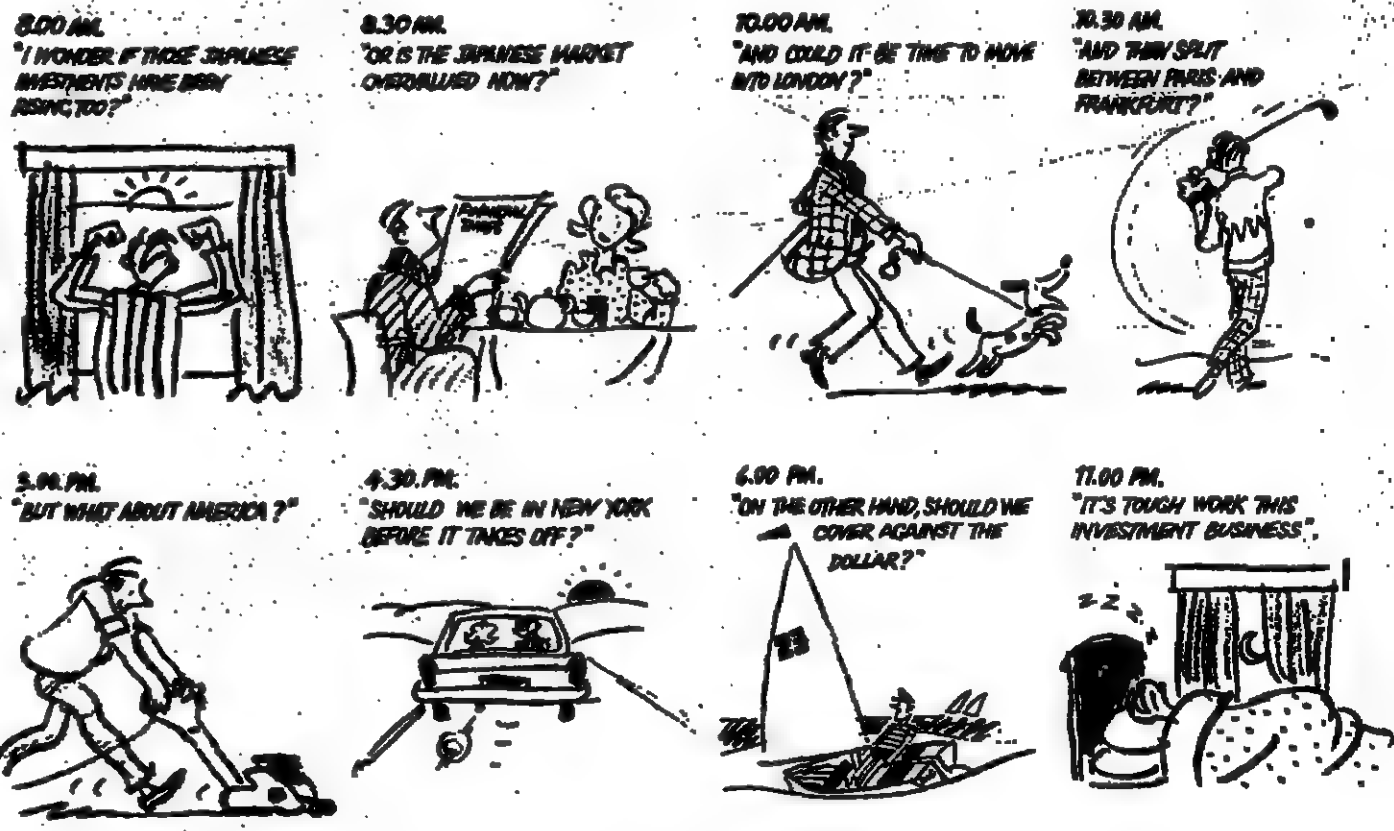
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THE NEW EBC AMRO INTERNATIONAL GROWTH TRUST



ONLY FOR THE REALLY ACTIVE INVESTOR!

Every serious investor must be aware of the opportunities that exist for profitable investment around the world. U.S.A., Japan, U.K., Holland, West Germany, Singapore, Hong Kong, Australia and France, all have active stock markets; and that's to name only a few.

But isn't that the problem? There's just too much to keep track of. How can you possibly move from one to another to make the most from them all, even if you have the time? It takes an effective organisation, on-the-spot market information and precise judgment.

A FRESH APPROACH
Or it takes the new EBC Amro International Growth Trust. The new Trust is designed for serious investors looking for above average capital growth, but who don't have the time or the resources to make the most of international investment opportunities. Because, make no mistake, the opportunities are there.

JUST FOR THE RECORD
If you take the performance of virtually any major stock market over the last five years, you will see really remarkable performances. Over the same period, the London, New York, Tokyo and Amsterdam stock markets have had rises ranging from 120% to 350%. And some of the smaller markets, while being very volatile, have done even better.

Although EBC Amro probably won't be moving your investments around quite as quickly as we've suggested above, the team responsible for the already successful EBC Amro Dutch Growth Trust will be actively managing the new International Growth Trust.

FIXED PRICE OFFER
Units will be offered at a 1% discount on a fixed price of 50p per unit until 6th October 1986.

HOW TO INVEST
Complete the application form and send it, together with your cheque made payable to EBC Amro Unit Trust Management Limited, c/o Manchester Unit Trust Administration Company Limited, FREEPOST, Manchester M2 8BL (no stamp required). If you don't have £500 immediately available, send for details of EBC Amro's Monthly Savings Plan by ticking the appropriate box on the coupon. Or, if you already have shares you would like to exchange for units in this Trust, please tick the appropriate box on the coupon below.

Remember that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Contract notes will usually be sent by return of post. You will receive a Unit Certificate within six weeks of receipt of your cheque. An initial charge of 5% is included in the price of the units and an annual charge of 1.25% (+ VAT) of the value of the fund is allowed for in the quoted yield. Prices will be quoted daily in The Financial Times.

Estimated gross current yield is 2.6% per annum at the launch price of 50p per unit. Managers' reports on the fund will be issued by 13th September each year. Income will also be distributed annually net of basic rate tax by 13th September. Trustee: Midland Bank Trust Company Limited. (Not open to residents in Eire.) EBC Amro Unit Trust Management Limited is a member of the Unit Trust Association. Remuneration is payable to qualified intermediaries and the rates are available on request.

EBC AMRO INTERNATIONAL GROWTH TRUST

APPLICATION FORM
To: EBC Amro Unit Trust Management Limited, c/o Manchester Unit Trust Administration Company Limited, FREEPOST, Manchester M2 8BL. (No stamp required).
We wish to invest £_____ in units in the EBC Amro International Growth Trust at the price ruling on receipt of this application (minimum investment £500). Fixed price offer less 1% discount applies until 6th October 1986. I am/we are over 18.
Please tick box if you require the following:
☐ Automatic reinvestment of distributions.
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☐ Details of the EBC Amro Share Exchange Scheme.
Mr/Ms/Miss/Other _____ Surname _____
First Name(s) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Signature _____ Date _____
(Joint applicants must sign and attach names and addresses separately.)

When you leave a job how can you stop your pension freezing?

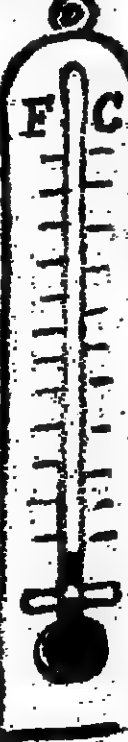
Leaving your job, perhaps to move to a new employer, can often bring instant financial gain. So it's natural in the circumstances to overlook the hard-earned money paid into your previous company's pension scheme.

But think, if you leave behind a deferred or frozen pension your benefits might suffer from more than a little frostbite by the time you retire.

Also, keeping your old company in touch with your changes of address and making sure you receive regular information about your pension can be a real headache, especially if you've had more than one employer.

So now you'll be pleased to hear that there's an alternative - The Equitable Transfer Plan.

The Plan lets you thaw out your pension by placing the transfer value of your fund with The Equitable, who then provide the pension benefits - benefits which, in many cases, will be more attractive than your deferred or frozen scheme.



Undoubtedly, you will want to choose a company with a first class record of investment performance and, while the past cannot guarantee the future, the results in one area are not necessarily the same as in another. The Equitable's achievement in personal pensions is remarkable.

In *Planned Savings* magazine's latest survey of 5, 10 and 20 year single premium with profits policies for personal pension plans, only one company appeared in the top ten of all six performance tables over 1985 and 1986 - The Equitable Life.

What's more, we won't pay you any of your money in the form of commission - to middlemen, so more of your money will end up in your new pension fund.

To stop your pension freezing get more details by approaching us direct on 01-606 6611, or return the coupon today.

To: The Equitable Life, FREEPOST 4 Coleman Street, London EC2B 2JT. I'd welcome further details of your Transfer Plan.

Name (Mr/Ms/Miss) _____
Address _____
Postcode _____
Date of Birth _____
Tel: (Office) _____
Tel: (Home) _____

The Equitable Life

You gain because we're different.

A high guaranteed monthly income from gilts.

PORTFOLIO 30

HOW?

Portfolio 30 is a service for investors which combines the advantages of two recent tax rulings:

- * Since July 2nd, all gains from British Government Securities (known as gilts) are exempt from Capital Gains Tax.
- * Within certain clearly defined limits, a regular return can be taken from gilts by converting the interest that accrues day by day into a capital gain which can be paid without deduction of tax.

Portfolio 30 offers you a convenient and efficient way of investing up to £5,000* directly into gilts. These are held by an independent custodian and you would be the beneficial owner.

You can fix your return for a period up to 10 years.

You can choose to receive regular payments either monthly, quarterly, half-yearly or annually.

Gilts are one of the most secure investments and carry the backing of the British Government. We invite you to send for a personal quotation, which will show the precise return we can guarantee you.

To Barlow Clowes & Partners Limited
Warford Court, Throgmorton Street, London EC2N 2AT.
Telephone: 01-256 6433 or 0625-872296

Please send me details of PORTFOLIO 30 together with a personal quotation of the income I can expect to receive.

Income required: Monthly ☐ Quarterly ☐ Half-yearly ☐ Annually ☐

Period of investment ☐ years (minimum 5 years/maximum 10 years)

Amounts available for investment £ (maximum £5,000)

NAME

ADDRESS

*If you are seeking a high return and have more than £5,000 to invest, please tick the box and we will send details of suitable investments.

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How to die benevolently

Do not be fooled into thinking that inheritance tax — this son of capital transfer tax and grandson of estate duty — is any more attractive than its predecessors. The old saying that nothing is certain in life, except death and taxes, is for most of us just as true today as ever it was.

Anyone who owns property worth more than £71,000 may ultimately be subject to inheritance tax at rates from 30 per cent to 60 per cent. And although £71,000 may sound a lot do not forget that this includes your home, its contents and all your savings.

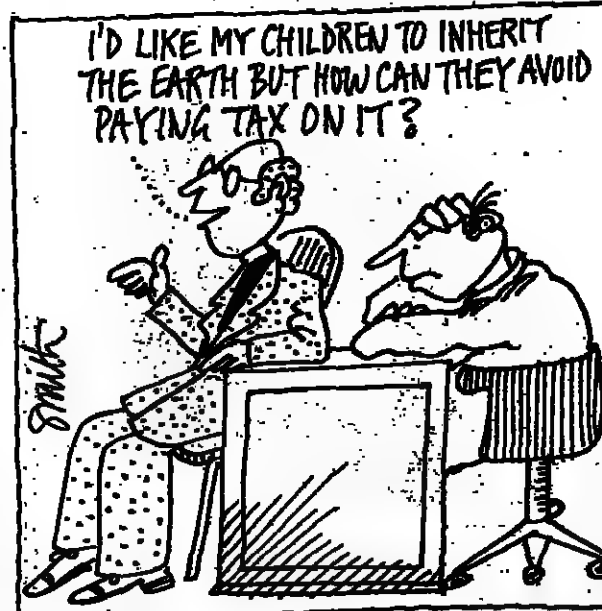
The good news is that inheritance tax can be avoided if you gave away assets more than seven years before you die.

The bad news is that the gift must be unconditional. For example, you cannot give away your house and continue to live in it unless you agree to pay a full commercial rent for the privilege.

If you make a gift within three years of your death the full rates of tax apply. Gifts made more than seven years before death are exempt from inheritance tax. Reduced rates, known as taper relief, apply for gifts made between four and seven years before death.

Unfortunately, the taper relief rules are drafted in such a way as to make them singularly unhelpful in actually reducing the amount of tax ultimately payable.

The relief works as follows. When a gift is made to an individual or certain favoured forms of trusts it is initially classified as a potentially exempt transfer. If the transferor subsequently dies in the following seven years tax be-



comes chargeable. If the death occurs in the first three years the full rate is payable. In year four the rate of tax is reduced by 20 per cent, increasing in 20 per cent steps in years five and six, and finally reaching 60 per cent by year seven. The rates of taper relief are set out in the table.

So far so good. However, the relief is not as generous as it would at first seem. Consider, for example, the case of Bert, a millionaire who decides to give £100,000 to his

TRANSFERS WITHIN SEVEN YEARS OF DEATH

Years between death and gift	Taper relief %
0-3	0
3-4	20
4-5	40
5-6	60
6-7	80

favorite nephew and dies five and a half years later.

The £100,000 will be included in Bert's estate as the gift was made within seven years of death. And given the level of wealth, it will effectively be subject to tax at the top rate of 60 per cent. Taper relief of 60 per cent will be available but you would be wrong to think that this means the effective rate of tax would be reduced by 36 per cent and the tax liability reduced to £24,000.

The point to watch is that lifetime transfers are taken into account in determining the total estate and hence the higher marginal rates of tax.

In our particular case, tax on the first £100,000 is only £8,950 and thus the 60 per cent taper relief amounts to £5,370. For the purposes of this relief it is almost as though the rest of the estate

does not exist. But this is in marked contrast to the £60,000 extra tax borne on the increased sum pushed into the top tax bracket by virtue of the initial transfer five and a half years before death.

The anomaly is even more glaring when considering more modest lifetime gifts falling wholly within the nil rate band, currently £71,000. Take, for example, the case of Emma, a millionaire, who decides to give away £50,000 to her favourite grandchild Jonathan.

If Emma lives for more than seven years from the date of the gift no tax will be payable. If, on the other hand, she dies within three years, the whole £50,000 is added to her estate and the liability to inheritance tax is increased by £30,000 (£50,000 at 60 per cent).

If the date of death is between three and seven years after the date of the gift, taper relief will be available. However, as the entire gift falls within the nil rate band the taper relief will be of no use and the additional tax liability will remain at £30,000 throughout the taper period.

It is especially important to understand how this taper relief operates if you are considering making a gift and subsequently taking out seven-year term assurance to cover the potential inheritance tax liability.

Many insurance companies may recommend term assurance that decreases in 20 per cent steps in order to match the supposed taper relief. However, in most cases the taper relief will be of little or no tax saving benefit and it will often be best to take out level term assurance.

Brian Friedman

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A combination to keep the market in good order

INVESTMENT

This week's announcement that the Stock Exchange is to join forces with the International Securities Regulatory Organisation, may not have everyone gasping with amazement.

It is, however, an important development in the history of investor protection and the ability of investors to purchase overseas shares.

The link-up comes when the heavily complex financial services legislation comes into full effect, probably in the middle of next year, there should be five self-regulating organizations (SROs) responsible for ensuring that their members are fit and proper to run investment businesses.

The value of an SRO as far as investors are concerned is that, if the system works properly, then the sharks and villains who have perennially found rich pickings in the investment business, will have no place to go.

"This" is because anyone wishing to carry out investment business will need to be authorized — effectively being given a licence — and almost all firms will achieve this by becoming a member of an SRO.

But getting into an SRO will not be a foregone conclusion. Apart from the normal vetting procedures to ensure that the key people dealing with the public in any business are fit and proper, there will be a whole host of membership rules designed to protect investors.

These range from conduct of business rules, which will stipulate what a firm can and cannot do, client segregation rules ensuring that the clients' money is not mixed in with the firm's, and capital adequacy rules. These latter are designed to ensure that a firm has sufficient capital to carry out the sort of business that it intends to do.

Importantly, anyone carrying out investment business without authorization commits a criminal offence punishable with imprisonment.

Advertisements will have to give the name of the SRO which the firm advertising belongs to, while the Securities and Investments Board, the body which will lay down the standards for the SRO network, will publish a list of all authorized businesses.

The Stock Exchange-ISRO link will spawn an SRO.

whose professional title is the Securities Association. Its members will be those currently in the two separate organizations, in other words stockbroking firms, banks and any other firm dealing in securities.

The link should also make it easier for individual investors to buy overseas shares. At the moment, the small private client would be hard pushed if he wanted to purchase shares directly in, say, IBM, American Express, Procter & Gamble, Toyota, Hitachi or Sony, although, as a unit trust account holder, he may have an indirect interest in the fortunes of these companies.

British stockbroking firms will buy overseas shares for the private client, but such private client business as there is, usually either is an appendage to other, mainstream business that the client has with the firm, or else is for large purchases. Even then the amount of private client business is minimal.

Almost all the business in overseas securities is done for major players such as the pension funds, insurance companies, or unit trust managers.

However, once the Stock Exchange and ISRO have sorted out the finer points of their link-up, all this will

Brokers will have the pices available

change, as part of the moves already afoot to simplify dealing for private clients.

The vision of the future is for all stockbrokers to have price display systems, which will give prices for all overseas stocks quoted on an official Stock Exchange anywhere in the world.

Information such as this is not available on brokers' screens at the moment, but the new International Stock Exchange will aim for such a goal.

What this means is that your friendly neighbourhood broker will have the share prices readily available.

He might not have precise bid and offer prices in front of him — it is likely that only the best known shares will be displayed in this way. However, he will at least have an indication of the price before him — as well as being able to buy the shares from one of the now numerous overseas securities firms which have set up operations in London.

Lawrence Lever

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Baby on the way, but rights on the way out

PREGNANCY

What does it mean in financial terms to become pregnant? For many women, the financial consequences are all too serious.

"Pregnancy means a loss of income and a serious interruption to many women's working lives, although there is some job protection for the longer-term employees as well as a modest collection of state benefits."

But that looks set to change. Maternity benefits, allowances and pay will probably be harder to come by, while reinstatement rights and the right not to be unfairly dismissed because of pregnancy will, if government plans are implemented, be eroded significantly.

● **Maternity grant:** Worth £25, it is now available to all pregnant women. This is to be abolished in April 1987 in favour of a £75 payment out of the new Social Fund — but only to women of limited means. Henceforth, only women who have to rely on Income Support (the new supplementary benefit) or Family Credit (the new family

income supplement) will qualify for the grant. Single payments, which could once be made to pregnant women on grounds of exceptional need, are also to be abolished.

True, £25 buys little more than a few nappies. Nevertheless, mothers now entitled to the £25 grant and single payments for maternity needs are likely to be worse off through the introduction of the new system. For example, in 1983 about 170,000 women claimed single payments for maternity needs at an average payment of £60. This, added to the £25 grant, gives an average of £85 — £10 higher in 1983 than the £75 proposed for 1987.

● **Maternity pay/allowances:** From April 1987 the present maternity pay and maternity allowance systems will be replaced by Statutory Maternity Pay (SMP). This will be paid by employers rather than by the DHSS. Unlike the present system for maternity allowance — where the woman must have paid a minimum amount of National Insurance contributions in the previous financial year — to qualify, the woman must have worked for

her present employer for at least six months.

Women in these circumstances will be entitled to a flat-rate payment at the same rate as the lowest rate of Statutory Sick Pay (now £31.60 a week) for 18 weeks. If the woman concerned has been with her employer for two years, her SMP will be increased to 90 per cent of her earnings for the first six weeks of her maternity leave.

Women who do not qualify for SMP but who have paid

'75,000 will lose under new rules'

National Insurance contributions for 16 of the past 52 weeks will be able to claim the residual maternity allowance from the DHSS.

One item of good news is that women will have a choice regarding when they take their paid maternity leave. The new scheme allows for a 13-week "core" period, starting six weeks before the baby is due; but the woman will be able to choose when to use the remaining five weeks' entitlement.

Against this, Tony Newton,

Happy days, but pregnancy is not all Mothercare shopping

the Social Services Under-Secretary at the time, admitted to Parliament that between 75,000 and 85,000 women will lose because of the new rules. Who gains? A mere 5,000 to 10,000.

● **Maternity rights:** Employment rights relating to unfair dismissal, redundancy and maternity reinstatement are now based on a work record of either 16 hours a week for two years, or eight hours a week for five years. The latest government White Paper, *Building Businesses... Not Barriers*, suggests this should be changed to 20 hours a week for two years, or 12 hours a week for five years.

This will further reduce eligibility for all employees' maternity rights — including

protection against unfair dismissal on grounds of pregnancy, and rights to maternity pay, maternity leave and reinstatement. Furthermore, the White Paper proposes to exempt employers of fewer than 10 employees from "reinstatement" arrangements altogether.

The latest White Paper is not available for consultation purposes; it merely sets out the Government's plans for the future. Judging by the latter's previous track record, what is proposed will happen. At this rate, "family planning" could take on a whole new meaning — and hard won women's rights will have gone to the wall.

Linda Avery

Welcome to your new home from the Land Registry

PROPERTY

It's good news week — the legal costs of buying a home, are coming down. From October 1, many conveyancing bills will be substantially reduced, as the Land Registry is cutting many of its fees.

In most parts of England and Wales, when you buy a home it usually has a "registered" title. This means that the title to the property is guaranteed by the Government.

When the property is first registered, the purchaser pays a fee to the Land Registry via his solicitor. The Registry will check that he has a valid title and then register his ownership. When a registered property is subsequently transferred, a fee is again paid to the Registry by the new owners, and the details of the change of ownership are noted.

Land registry fees increase according to the value of the property. From October 1, the amount of the Land-Registry fees will still depend on the cost of the property, but generally the fees, in the price ranges most relevant to home buyers, will be going down by between 27 and 37 per cent

depending on the property's value. A £35,000 transaction will be £30 cheaper while a £500,000 deal will cost £130 less to process.

The Law Society is very much in favour: "We are very conscious that solicitors have to collect the fees on behalf of the Land Registry, and that the fees represent a very substantial cost to the house buyer. Any reduction must be welcome."

But are the reductions large enough? Surely it is no more difficult for the Land Registry

Fee is meant to cover basic cost

to change the ownership details on a property worth £35,000 than on one worth £75,000?

As long ago as 1977-78, the Land Registry, Registration of Title Department, made a £1 million surplus. In 1982-83 the surplus was more than £11.5 million. In 1984-85 it was just over £20 million. A Land Registry spokesman said: "The estimated surplus for 1985-86 will be somewhere around £16 million mark."

Yet according to the Land Registration Acts, Land Reg-

istry fees are not designed to generate a surplus. They are basically meant to cover the cost of salaries and other expenses, and to ensure that there is enough money to pay out for any indemnity claims where loss is caused through an error on the register of title of a particular property.

The Land Registry is "hoping that the present fees are now set in such a way as to comply with statutory requirements, i.e., that we cover our costs". A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor's Department says: "It is only right that the fees be reduced. The surpluses are very high, because of the very high level of conveyancing activity, and the increase in house prices. The Land Registry is not meant to be in surplus." These new reductions have simplified the fee structure, but many buyers would still argue that the fees are still too high and the changes have not gone far enough. It will be interesting to see whether the Land Registry accounts show a surplus for 1986-87.

In the meantime, something is better than nothing, and any reduction in the home-buying bill must be welcomed.

Susan Fieldman

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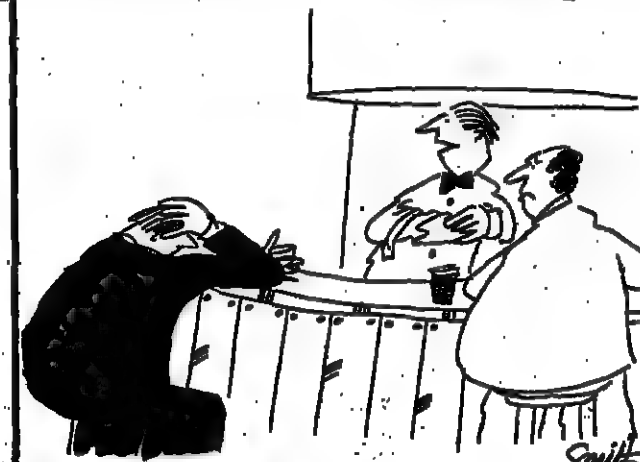
time to apply. Share applications may be handed in to any TSB branch before it closes on Tuesday, 23rd September, 1986.

If you wish to apply by post your application must arrive no later than 10am on Wednesday, 24th September, 1986.

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INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Bank of England: Current account — no interest paid. Deposit accounts — "seven days" notice required for withdrawals. Barclays 4.375 per cent. Lloyds 4.35 per cent. Midland 4.35 per cent. NatWest 4.375 per cent. National Girobank 4.35 per cent. Fixed term deposits: £10,000 and over: 6 months 6.75 per cent, 3 months 6.675 per cent, 6 months 6.75 per cent. (National Westminster: "1 month 6.167 per cent, 3 months 6.384 per cent, 6 months 6.447 per cent (Midland). Other banks may differ.

MONEY FUNDS
Net, GNR Telephone
Allent Home monthly inc. 6.3% 2.1% 01 636 0070
8 of Scotland 6.5% 7.1% 01 639 9500
Barclays Higher Rate Deposit Accounts: £1,000-£9,999 6.8% 6.7% 01 636 1587
£10,000 & over 7.0% 7.1% 01 636 1587
Cater Allen call 7.1% 7.3% 01 636 2777
Citi: Money Mkt Plus 7.0% 7.3% 01 631 1432
HFC Trust 7-day 7.3% 7.3% 01 236 8981
Henderson Money Market: Cheque Account 6.8% 7.1% 01 636 5757
L & A High Inc. Dep. 6.3% 7.2% 01 636 1587
Lloyds HCA 7.2% 7.4% 01 636 1587
M&G HCA 6.8% 7.1% 01 636 4566
Midland HCA £2,000-£9,999 6.7% 6.9% 0742 20066
£10,000 and over 7.0% 7.1% 0742 20066
Nat West High Int Spec Reserve £2,000-£9,999 6.8% 7.0% 01 738 1100
£10,000 & over 7.0% 7.1% 01 738 1100
Oppenheimer Money Management Account: under £10,000 6.5% 6.7% 01 236 9393
over £10,000 6.8% 6.8% 01 236 9393
Royal B of Scotland Premium Account 7.1% 7.3% 031 557 0211
S & P Call 6.8% 7.1% 0968 6666
Schroder Wagon £2,500 to £9,999 6.7% 6.9% 0785 67773
over £10,000 6.8% 7.2% 0785 67773
Tullet & Riley call 6.3% 6.5147 01 236 6682
T & R 7-day 6.8% 6.9497 01 236 6682
Trendall call 7.0% 7.1% 0272 732241
Trendall 7-day 7.0% 7.1% 0272 732241
Western Trust: 1 month 6.8% 7.1% 0752 281101
6 months 6.8% 7.1% 0752 281101
Figures are the latest available at the time of going to press. Research: D. Barn

National Savings Bank: Ordinary Accounts — if a minimum balance of £100 maintained for whole of 1986, 6 per cent interest p.a. for each complete month where balance is over £500, otherwise 5 per cent. Investment Accounts — 10.75 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £100,000.

National Savings Income Bond: Minimum investment £2,000, maximum £100,000. Interest 11.25 per cent variable at six weeks' notice paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 months' notice. Penalties in first year.

National Savings Indexed Income Bond: Start rate monthly income for first year, 6 per cent, increased at end of each year to match increase in price as measured by Retail Prices index. Cash value remains the same. Income taxable, paid gross. Three months' notice of withdrawal. Minimum investment of £5,000 in multiples of £1,000. Maximum £100,000.

National Savings 4th Index-Linked Certificate: Maximum investment — £5,000 excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the Retail Prices Index. Supplement of 3.00 per cent in the first year, 3.25 per cent in the second, 3.50 per cent in the third and 4.00 per cent in the fourth and 5.00 per cent in the fifth. Value of Retirement Issues Certificates purchased in September 1981, £147.38 including bonus and supplements August RPI 384.7. (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month).

National Savings Certificate: 51st issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.85 per cent, maximum investment £10,000. General extension rate for holders of earlier issues which have reached maturity is 8.01.

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Local Authority Yearling Bonds: 12 months fixed rate investments interest 9 1/2 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers). Minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Guaranteed Income Bonds: Return paid net of basic rate tax; higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity. 1yr Credit & Commerce, 7.75 per cent; 2yrs Credit & Commerce, 7.50 per cent; 3yrs Premium Life, 7.10 per cent; 4yrs Prov Capital 8.25 per cent; 5yrs Pinnacle Ins, 7.75 per cent.

Local authority town hall bonds: Fixed term, fixed rate investments interest quoted net (basic rate tax deducted at source non-reclaimable) 1yr Northampton 7.1 per cent; 2yrs Kirkcaldy 7.25 per cent; 3yrs Manchester 7.25 per cent, min inv £500; 4yrs Bristol 7 per cent; 5yrs 6.67% Haverford & Worcester 7 per cent; 6yrs Telford 5.95 per cent; 8yrs Telford 6.21 per cent, min investment £1,000. Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (638 6361 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also Pressat no 24806.

Building Societies: Ordinary share accounts — 5.25 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1-2 per cent over ordinary share rates. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not reclaimable by non-taxpayers.

Foreign currency deposits: Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court International (0487 26741). Seven days' notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for switching currencies. Sterling 5.11 per cent; US dollar 5.11 per cent; Yen 4.00 per cent; 3.00 per cent; French Franc 2.51 per cent.

BASF'86

Copies of the interim report (first half-year 1986) are available from

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RACING: PRIMARY CAN ADD AUTUMN CUP TO HARWOOD'S RECENT SUCCESS IN STAYING HANDICAPS

Forest Flower to outshine the colts in Mill Reef

By Mandarini

Forest Flower can hammer home the point that this season's crop of two-year-old fillies are so far superior to the colts by becoming the first of her sex to win the Rokeby Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury this afternoon.

John Balding's brilliantly fast filly's only defeat from four starts occurred when she was beaten a short head by Minstrelle in the Henz 57 Phoenix Stakes. And the value of the form of Europe's richest two-year-old race has been endorsed dramatically ever since.

Minstrelle, herself, won the Moylagre Stud Stakes at The Curragh last Saturday. Polozina, Wignitour and Sizzling Melody, who finished third, fourth and fifth, have all been subsequently successful in pattern races.

Prior to that honourable setback, Forest Flower had beaten Minstrelle in the Cherry Hinton Stakes at Newmarket after centering home in Ascot's Queen Mary Stakes.

On paper, the best form of her eight rivals is held by Carol's Treasure and Darley Knight, who finished third to Sizzling Melody at Doncaster last week and can now make it three wins from his last four starts.

However, the dark horse in the race is Robert Armstrong's Shady Heights, who showed enormous promise when second to a comfortable win on his debut at Windsor.

Guy Harwood's long-distance handicapper is in invincible mood at present, demonstrating when 13lb 10oz Bannister landed a double for the Pulborough trainer at Ayr on Wednesday. And now Primary can strike another blow for the powerful Sussex stable by adding the Coral Autumn Cup to the laurels he has already gained in York's Ebor Handicap.

The selection has been raised 13lb in the weights for his four-length victory over Chateau Souris in Europe's richest handicap. But as that was the first

evidence of the true merit of Khaled Abdulla's three-year-old Primary, they will be outstripping the official assessment. Of his rivals, the Queen's six-year-old Insular looks reasonably treated and always runs a sound race on his local track. Harwood and Tander Type are others with chances, but Primary must surely take a deal of beating.

The afternoon's nap is entrusted to Power Bender, who runs in the £25,000 Courage Stakes. Gavin Pritchard-Gordon's four-year-old is one of the most improved horses in training as he showed, when storming to an easy victory at Yarmouth, after beating Celestial Storm, last Saturday's St Leger runner-up, in a handicap.

Naturally the handicapper has taken account of these wins, but Richard Cotton reckons that Power Bender is still on the upgrade.

Other likely winners on the Berkshire course are Land Of Ivory and Mukhabbar.

Scotland's Pritchard-Gordon can land a long-range double by winning the Ladbrokes Avonshire Handicap with High Tension. This tough and consistent four-year-old failed to stay the distance when finishing a creditable fifth to Primary in the Ebor Handicap. He regained the winning thread with a ready victory at Doncaster last week and can now make it three wins from his last four starts.

In the day's main race, the £12,000 Firth of Clyde Stakes, Linda's Magic, twice an impressive winner before finishing third to Polozina at York, appears to possess superior form for her speedy rivals. Another sound bet at Ayr should be John Dunlop's improving two-year-old Chubbain in the Top Flight Leisure Handicap, and at Catterick Bridge the best bet should be Master Policy, who has the equally progressive Giamgram Four Grans to overcome in the London and Northern group Nursery.



Tony Murray driving out Thesmos to beat Zero War at Newbury yesterday (photograph: Ian Stewart)

BBC refuse to concede

The BBC yesterday refused to concede victory to Channel 4 over the battle to stage the Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe on October 5 live on television.

Unfortunately, Peter Lorenson, the BBC spokesman on sport, died suddenly on Thursday, and Vicky Telford, who will be producing the programme, said that Channel 4 had been given the exclusive rights to Europe's most demanding flat race. "Ten cameras are to be used and we shall be showing the Prix de l'Arc as well as the Arc."

On Thursday Colin Frewin, managing director of Sunset and Vicky Telford, who will be producing the programme, said that Channel 4 had been given the exclusive rights to Europe's most demanding flat race. "Ten cameras are to be used and we shall be showing the Prix de l'Arc as well as the Arc."

Kufuma can score at Leopardstown

From Our Irish Racing Correspondent, Dublin

Never have there been as many English challengers for Irish prizes as in the current season and the invasion continues at Leopardstown this afternoon when the four-year-old Kufuma, trained by Geoff Huffer, heads the challenge for the group three nine-furlong Hennessy Cognac Glencourt Stakes.

This race will offer Irish racers the first opportunity of seeing the top British apprentice jockey Gary Carter in action as he comes over with Kufuma.

On his latest start, in the Final Score Stakes at Nottingham, Kufuma proved much too good for that very consistent three-year-old Kaddish.

booked the visiting American jockey Cash Asmussen for My Generation, but his victory this season came in a handicap at York and he does not look as big a danger to Kufuma as Michael Stoute's Samarkit, already a winner in Ireland this season.

With Fioravanti failing to live up to his exalted juvenile reputation, the best of the home runners should be the Irish 1,000 Guineas runner-up, Lake Champlain. If Kufuma can reproduce his Nottingham form, though, he will take a lot of beating at the weights.

The primary reason for Asmussen's visit to Ireland is to partner two juvenile sprints, Fairy Dancer and An-

Blinkered first time

NEWBURY: A.D. 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RACING

Green Ruby the glitter in Balding double celebration

By Michael Seely

Toby Balding landed a magnificent long-range double at the rewarding odds of 182-1 when Green Ruby won the Ladbrokes Ayr Gold Cup and Gold Prospect the Schweppes Autumn Handicap at Newbury yesterday.

John Williams, the 38-year-old former jockey, was also completing the double of the Goodwood Stewards' Cup and Scotland's richest Flat race on the same horse for the Hampshire trainer.

Well appeared to be leading the field, racing on the far side of the track. But over two furlongs from home, Felipe Toro, the 5-1 favourite came with a tremendous run. But in a desperate last-furlong struggle Williams drove Green Ruby up the centre of the track to foil the gamble by a neck. Boot Polish finished half a length away in third place.

"I was very happy with our draw beforehand," said Williams afterwards, "but I was terrified that I'd go to the front too soon at the distance. However, I'd had to make an early move as the far side had appeared to be going so well."

Balding, delighted to have won the Ayr Gold Cup with his first runner in the race, said, "I was very frightened of the two well handicapped horses, Felipe Toro and Mantion Dan. But provided that the ground remained firm, I knew that Green Ruby was sure to run a good race. I don't know whether he'll run again next year, but he's been syndicated as a stallion to stand eventually at the Spar Stud near Droivich."

Down in Berkshire, Caroline Balding, the trainer's wife, has watched Brian Rose conjuring a decisive finishing run from Gold Prospect to beat Below Zero by a length and a half. "He would have gone to Ayr along with Green Ruby if there had been any give in the ground," she said. "He was unlucky in running in both the Wokingham and the Stewards' Cup."

The highlight at Newbury was Michael Stoute's passing of another historic landmark in his remarkable career after Walter Swinburn had ridden Milligram to a three-quarters

of a length win over her stable companion, Mammo, in the Stable Stud and Farm East West Stakes.

The brilliant Newmarket trainer total of prize money won in Great Britain alone this season is now £1,154,036. He has now beaten Henry Cecil's previous record, established last season of £1,148,206. Stoute, who has also saddled ten group one winners in 1986 confirmed that Shahrazad, the English and Irish Derby winner, would be galloped on the racecourse at Newbury today.

Both the winner and runner-up put up performances which auger well for the future. Swinburn having had to bring Milligram up the centre of the track to take the lead entering the last furlong. "She did it well from a bad draw," said Stoute, from his home in Newmarket, "she does little when in front. Milligram, is a very nice filly, but I have no special plans for her as yet."

Milligram, a daughter of Mill Stream, is out of One In A Million, the 1979 1,000 Guineas winner. Egon Weingold, the head of Helena Springfield Limited, the breeders of yesterday's winner at the Meon Valley Stud, said "One In A Million has had five living foals and we are offering a yearling colt by Shirley Heights on day one of the Highflyer sales."

The Haynes, Hanson and Clark Stakes, which has previously been won by Henbit, Shergar and Rainbow Quest, was yesterday captured by Thameen, whom Tony Murray rode to a narrow, but decisive win over the fast finishing Zero Wat, who is a half brother to Green Ruby. "He's still very backward and inexperienced," said Tom Jones about the winner. "He hardly knows what it's all about. But given time, he should make a decent horse."

Thameen cost Hamdan Al-Maktoum \$600,000 at the Keeneland sales in Kentucky. Guy Harwood was also delighted with the performance of Zero Wat. "I always thought he was a nice horse, but we have done very little with him at home," he said.

Yesterday's results

Ayr

Going firm
2.0 (5) 1. WYTH (P. Dorian, 5-1) 2. Royal Dynasty (P. Dorian, 5-1) 3. Newmarket (M. Brock, 10-1) 4. ALSO RAN: 1. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 2. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 3. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 4. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 5. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 6. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 7. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 8. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 9. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 10. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 11. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 12. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 13. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 14. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 15. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 16. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 17. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 18. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 19. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 20. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 21. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 22. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 23. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 24. Ayr Invincible (M. Brock, 10-1) 25. Ayr Invincible (M. 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Seoul Diary

Greeks ride a mythical horse

The International Olympic Committee is accused of selling its soul to commerce. Not so, reply ISL, the Swiss-based marketing company who handle sponsorship for both FIFA and now the Olympic Games: commerce is being reduced, they say, by getting more money from fewer sponsors, making the marketplace more dignified and producing wider benefits for more national Olympic committees.

Seven multi-national sponsors have already signed for 1988, guaranteeing as much money as 35 sponsors did for Los Angeles, namely \$125 million. Visa, the world's largest consumers' payment system, has joined Coca Cola, Kodak and Federal Express, and three more will be announced next month. Another five are in the pipeline.

ISL's Olympic programme is called TOP. Michele Verdini, the IOC's press officer, who has been taken over this part of the IOC's function previously dominated by the departed director, Monique Berlioz, was able to announce that 120 NOCs have signed, each receiving a \$10,000 flat fee and \$300 per competitor attending the Seoul and Calgary Games.

Western countries such as the United States, Britain and West Germany were at first reluctant, supposing they could negotiate better individual deals, but TOP's comprehensive worldwide contracts with many traders removes the complexity of NOCs' private deals. China recently signed, Moscow has invited TOP executives to a meeting, and the only traditional Olympic nation missing is ... Greece.

The Greeks have mounted a mythical horse of high principle, which it becomes them, considering that they have charged heavily to receive the Olympic torch for the last time, the right of lighting the Olympic torch by the sun's rays at Olympia.

With the death of Nikos Nissiotis, their IOC member, Greece may find that their right to the centenary games of 1996 is far from unopposed. Both Brisbane and Birmingham could be bidding again, if they fail this time, together with Toronto. Assuming a European city wins this October, then by 1996 the Olympic movement could be more seriously looking for additional financial benefit, and Brisbane or Toronto would better suit American television than Athens.

The attitude is likely to be "if they don't want us now, forget it, I'm afraid", a Brisbane committee member tells me. Several specialist committees of the Olympic Council of Asia's 36 members - Afghanistan, Laos, Mongolia, North Korea, Vietnam and Yemen PDR - seem unlikely to take part in the 10th Asian Games starting today. Not a boycott, they say, just that they haven't answered the invitation.

The same absenteeism may well ideologically deny themselves in 1988, though the IOC will lose no sleep. The rattle of anti-imperialist slogans from Pyongyang, exhorting Asian neighbours to stay away from this fortnight, has become hollow and contrived. A recent radio broadcast falsely proclaimed that the South had 600,000 cases of AIDS. More positively, they cabled invited countries saying that "anybody who loves peace should not go to Seoul". Another broadcast earlier this month claimed the South "was on the brink of war". If so, the North are possibly best placed to know.

John Boulter, secretary-elect of the British Olympic Association until finding he couldn't afford London house prices and yielded to Adidas's inducements to remain with them in France, is out there charming his way, as ever, through the hazy mists of Athens and Olympia. As a former Olympian he would have been an admirable successor to Dick Palmer, now with the Olympic solidarity campaign. The BOA, sadly, will not be re-admitted, limited by their salary scale. "If you pay the secretary too much," said Don Anthony, a BOA member out here with the Birmingham committee, "half your amateur administrators say 'well, let him do the work' and stop trying."

David Miller

FOOTBALL: SUCCESSOR TO GRAHAM TURNER COULD YET COME FROM MANCHESTER

McNeill emerges from the shadows as the favourite for Villa post

By Clive White

It looks as though the news of Graham Turner's successor back to Manchester were right after all. Well almost. It is not Ron Atkinson, the Manchester United manager, who Aston Villa have turned to but Billy McNeill, his Manchester City rival.

Doug Ellis, the chairman of Aston Villa, yesterday asked Peter Swales, his opposite number at Maine Road, for permission to speak to the 46-year-old Scot. Mr Swales said that he would inform his board of Villa's interest.

"Naturally we don't want to lose him but the matter will have to be discussed," he said. The Villa chairman, who said he would not approach any manager under contract to a club, stated on Thursday that "a big name" had come to him about the position.

If City agree to release McNeill, as seems likely, they will probably ask for about £100,000 in compensation since he has three years of his contract still to run. McNeill said: "I am flattered that a club of that stature has come in for me."

The name of McNeill was just about the only one that had not been linked with the Villa post since Turner's dismissal on Sunday. The *Birmingham Evening Mail* listed a racing-style form book for a field of the 15 most likely candidates but he was not among them. They asked Villa supporters whom they would most like to see win the race and way out in front was Keith Burkinshaw, the former Tottenham Hotspur manager.

Peter Shilton, one of the early front runners, not surprisingly declared his disinterest in the position. He has enough on his hands as the manager trying to rescue Southampton without trying to do the job of player and manager at Villa Park.

He and his stand-in last week, young Flowers, have had to pick the ball out of the net 15 times already this season and the likelihood is that Shilton, who has recovered from influenza, will be running around the back of his net again this afternoon. Liverpool, the champions, come to the Dell well placed to take over the

leadership of the first division for the first time this season. However, one man with good reason to have a say about that is Mark Wright, the England defender, who broke his leg in the FA Cup semi-final against Liverpool. He is included in a Southampton squad for the first time since that accident, in a collision with Shilton, five months ago. The injury cost him his place in England's squad for the World Cup finals in Mexico.

The decision to play the 23-year-old central defender may be left to Wright himself. "After just one reserve game it is unlikely that he will be ready to face the League champions but I'm not ruling him out completely," Chris Nicholl, the Southampton manager, said.

Nicholl, who is still optimistic of persuading Allen Evans, the Villa centre back, to join them, names Gittens, a reserve central defender, in the squad. Armstrong, who has refused to play in a wide midfield position this season, is also included.

In contrast, Liverpool, who have a reputation of quality centre backs, are able to welcome back their captain, Hansen, after missing two games through a hamstring strain. Just to make Southampton more envious, Hansen has missed three matches.

Though Kenny Dalglish, the Liverpool manager, always maintains that he is interested only in what his own team are doing, he will take more than a passing interest in what happens at Stamford Bridge where a rejuvenated Chelsea side take Nottingham Forest, the first division's new leaders.

Niedzwiedzki is another long term absentee who is added to the squad more as a boost to his morale than in any serious intention of playing him. Chelsea, after their convincing win at Tottenham Hotspur, are more than capable of putting the brake on Forest's run of three consecutive victories.

Should Forest and Liverpool fail, and there is an away victory at Selhurst Park, the shared home of Charlton Athletic, we will be welcoming new first division leaders at almost as far-fetched as Wimbledon. It would be the first time that unfancied Coventry City have led the League during 19 mainly desperate seasons in the first division.

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Oswestry are expelled

Oswestry Town, of the Midland League, have been expelled from the league for failing to field a player in last Saturday's 1-0 win against Prescot Cables. Steve Austin, who appeared for Oswestry, was not on the list of players and the club has been fined £500.

Cheshire have postponed their third division home game against Gillingham today because of an outbreak of gastroenteritis at the club.

Peter Lorenzo, the sports journalist, has died aged 59. Lorenzo, who specialised in football and boxing, wrote for the *New Chronicle*, *Daily Herald* and *The Sun*. He also worked for ITV, BBC television and BBC radio sports.

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Dodds returns

Although most of the contenders for the Scottish League championship are faced with injury worries - the cost of success in Europe - they should still prove a tough test for the opposition in this afternoon's matches.

Aberdeen, more upset by injury than any of their rivals, add to their list the name of Wright, the youngster who scored a splendid goal against St Johnstone yesterday.

Dodds, the former Dundee United forward signed for a fee of around £200,000 from Newcastle yesterday, to lead the attack against Celtic at Kilmorie Park. The rediscovery of their fighting spirit on Wednesday gives Aberdeen hope that they have found form good enough to keep them ahead in the title race.

Dodds, who was loaned to Aberdeen in the summer for £180,000 but played only a few games before falling out of favour, Rangers were among those interested in the former Scottish international centre forward.

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£500 fine comes as a relief to Rush

By a Correspondent

Ian Rush was fined £500 and received a severe reprimand yesterday after being found guilty of assaulting, and improper conduct towards, the Blackpool referee Ken Walsley after Liverpool's match with Manchester City on August Bank Holiday Monday.

The Football Association four-man committee revealed that the £2m forward was treated "lightly" because of his near exemplary disciplinary record over the past five seasons in which he had been booked only twice. After the hearing, an extremely relieved Rush admitted: "I'm very satisfied with the result. It was a fair hearing. Of course, I now regret what I said to the referee, who wouldn't let me go. But the main thing for me is not to let it happen ever again."

"Sitting in front of the committee was a nerve racking experience, because I did not know what the outcome would be."

He said he had signed the biggest shirt sponsorship deal in his history, worth £25,000, with a local company, Tynedale Turkey.

Ken McNaught, Sheffield United's centre back, has been advised to retire. McNaught, who has not played since 1984, has had circulatory trouble in a leg and specialists have advised him not to play again.

Steve Archibald, the Scottish internationalist, will not be leaving Barcelona for Alavés or anyone else, according to Spanish sources. He is still wanted by Terry Venables, the manager, as cover for his fellow Scot, Hughes, and Liverpool and City the most affluent of French clubs could match his newly-revised contract.

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Hull tempt Pearce away from Llanelli

By Keith Macklin

Gary Pearce of Llanelli, the only player to score more than 400 points in British Rugby Union last season, yesterday signed for Hull for an undisclosed fee which is believed to be between £60,000 and £70,000. Hull are wasting no time in putting their new star on the field. He will play at stand-off half in the first division game against Leigh tomorrow.

The Llanelli and former Wales fly-half watched Hull play Bramley in the Yorkshire Cup last Sunday, and decided to sign a few days later. The Hull coach, Len Casey, has such confidence in him that Pearce will kick the goals for Hull tomorrow, despite the fact that it will be his first taste of professional rugby. Pearce, aged 25, will live in Hull with his wife, Susan, and son and daughter.

Pearce has no fears about a hostile reaction to his signing in Hull. In fact, he is expecting several hundred Llanelli supporters to travel to Hull tomorrow to shout for him.

The appearance of Pearce in the Hull squad steals the limelight from the other first division games. Northern's another unbeaten side, Wigan (thus Northern's Terry Holmes finds his club upstaged by the arrival of his former half-back colleague in the Welsh side).

Both these teams have made excellent starts to the season, with Northern's form proving a revelation to their supporters, who last season had been disappointed by the team's performance. Wigan are the favourites for the championship, sponsored by Stones Bitter, and a big crowd should be richly entertained at Odsal.

St Helens' most serious opposition in the opening championship, Huddersfield, will travel to Featherstone and the premiership holders, Warrington, entertain Salford. Hull Kingston Rovers are away from home at Oldham while Fulham have a home game at Chiswick against Sheffield Eagles.

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TODAY'S FOOTBALL, RUGBY AND OTHER FIXTURES

First division
Aston Villa v Norwich
Charlton v Coventry
Chelsea v Nottingham Forest
Leicester v Tottenham
Manchester City v QPR
Newcastle v Wimbledon
Sheff Wed v Sheffield Utd
Watford v Burnley

BBC 1

6.45 Open University. Until 8.25.
8.35 The Changeling. (R) 8.40 The Family. (R) 8.45 The Saturday Picture Show. This final programme of the series. 10.55 Walk Tall. Your Father Gets Home. Comedy series. 11.15 Film: Tarzan's Revenge. (1938) starring Glenn Morris. Tarzan comes to the rescue when a young woman on a safari receives unwanted attention from an Oxford educated African prince. Directed by D. Ross Lederman.

12.30 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: 12.35 Football. 1.00 News summary and weather. 1.30, 2.35 and 3.05 Volleyball: The Royal Bank Cup from Birmingham. 1.55, 2.25, 2.55 and 3.25 Racing from Newbury. 2.05 Rallying: The Tudor Webster Rally. 3.35 and 4.00 Motorcycling: The British motorcycle Championships from Silverstone. 3.50 Half-times. 4.00 Final score. News with Jan Leeming.

5.05 Sports regional news. 5.20 Roland Rat - The Series. With guests, Stanley Irwin and Robert Brown. Doctor Who. Part three of the 14-episode adventure, The Trial of a Time Lord. (CeeFax)

6.10 The Noel Edmonds Late Late Breakfast Show. A Whiffy Wheelers special. 7.00 Every Second Counts. Comedy game show. 7.35 The Russ Abbot Show. Comedy sketches and music. Among the guests are Les Dennis, Bella Emberg and Maggie Moore.

8.05 Casualty. Episode three of the drama series set in the night casualty department of a city hospital. Among the problems faced tonight is a Christian Scientist with an appendicitis. (CeeFax)

8.45 News and Sport. With Jan Leeming. Weather.

9.10 Film: Black Tuesday (1982) starring Roy Scheider, Candy Clark, Warren Oates and Malcolm McDowell. Drama, mostly set in the skies above Los Angeles, about members of the city's police Astro Division who, when testing a remarkable helicopter, accidentally become involved in the sinister Project Thor. Directed by John Badham. (CeeFax)

10.55 Blot on the Landscape. Episode four and Dundridge sets to work with a will planning the motorway through Cleane Gorge. (CeeFax)

11.55 Film: Out of Season (1975) starring Vanessa Redgrave, Cliff Robertson and Susan George. A mother and her teenage daughter, living in their dingy hotel, find their mundane existence ruffled by the arrival of the mother's old flame. Directed by Alan Bridges.

1.20 Weather.

TV-AM

6.55 TV-AM introduced by Richard Keys. Weather at 6.55; news at 7.00; regional report at 7.05; and sport at 7.10.

7.30 The Wide Awake Club includes the first heat of the WAC Short Snooker Championships.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 No 73. The first of a new series. 11.00 Knight Rider. Michael Knight does battle with a gang of criminals planning a large gold robbery. (I)

12.00 News with John Suchet. 12.05 Saint and Gruesome. Ian and Jimmy review the week's football news and look forward to this afternoon's games. 12.30 Wrestling from Stratford Civic Hall.

1.20 Airwolf. A college reunion is the occasion for the attempted kidnapping of a wealthy old girl. 1.25 The Cuckoo Wakes. Vintage comedy series starring Diane Keen, Lewis Collins and David Roper. (I)

2.45 International Soccer. Live coverage of the British Light-Weightweight Championship bout between Clifton McKenzie and Tony McKenzie, and Errol Christie against Adam George, at the Shendish Leisure Centre, Hemel Hempstead. Results Service.

4.45 News. 5.05 Blockbusters. 5.35 The A-Team. The fearless four go to the aid of prisoners who are in danger of having their land taken away by a heartless owner of swindlers. (Oracle)

6.30 Black Dada. A light-hearted look at what happens on a blind date.

7.15 Copy Cats. Comedy lessons from a host of impressionists led by Bobby Davro.

7.45 2-2-1. Games show with a Roaring Twenties theme, presented by Ted Rogers. His guests include Grace Kennedy, Faith Brown, Ron Sattton, and Earl Oldin. (Oracle)

8.45 News and Sport. 9.00 Dermsey and Makepeace. The two investigators become involved in the illegal prizefighting business when they find a badly injured man lying in the road. (Oracle)

10.00 LWT News headlines followed by Film: Last Entrance (1979) starring Roy Scheider and Janet Margolin. Thriller about an investigator who has a breakdown after he survives an attempt on his life that leaves his wife dead. His employers believe he is a liability and order a colleague, his brother-in-law, to dispose of him. Directed by Jonathan Demme.

11.55 Film: In Concert. Marc Almond at the Music Shed.

12.25 The Blind Story. The evolution of the celebrated bathing suit.

1.05 Night Thoughts.



The World Press Award picture of Bhopal tragedy victims taken by Dilip Mehta, who is profiled tonight on Channel 4 at 7.30pm

BBC 2

6.50 Open University. Until 1.55.
2.00 Film: The Man Who Came to Dinner (1941) starring Bertie Davis and Monty Woolley. Comedy about an overbearing novelist. Directed by William Keighly.

3.50 The Sky at Night. Patrick Moore talks to the Astronomer Royal, Professor Sir Francis Graham Smith, about the discovery of a quasar. (I)

4.10 World Chess Report. Highlights of the week's play in Leningrad.

4.40 Championship Darts. The Unipart British Professional Championship.

5.20 Rock Around the Clock. The annual all-night pop music show, with breaks at 7.30 for NewsView and 10.25 for Championship Darts. The line-up is: 5.30 a-ha on Stage 5.55 Stan Ridgway 6.05 Cameo in concert at the Royal Albert Hall 6.25 The Jam 6.45 The Jam 6.55 The Jam 7.05 The Jam 7.15 The Jam 7.25 The Jam 7.35 The Jam 7.45 The Jam 7.55 The Jam 8.05 The Jam 8.15 The Jam 8.25 The Jam 8.35 The Jam 8.45 The Jam 8.55 The Jam 9.05 The Jam 9.15 The Jam 9.25 The Jam 9.35 The Jam 9.45 The Jam 9.55 The Jam 10.05 The Jam 10.15 The Jam 10.25 The Jam 10.35 The Jam 10.45 The Jam 10.55 The Jam 11.05 The Jam 11.15 The Jam 11.25 The Jam 11.35 The Jam 11.45 The Jam 11.55 The Jam 12.05 The Jam 12.15 The Jam 12.25 The Jam 12.35 The Jam 12.45 The Jam 12.55 The Jam 1.05 The Jam 1.15 The Jam 1.25 The Jam 1.35 The Jam 1.45 The Jam 1.55 The Jam 2.05 The Jam 2.15 The Jam 2.25 The Jam 2.35 The Jam 2.45 The Jam 2.55 The Jam 3.05 The Jam 3.15 The Jam 3.25 The Jam 3.35 The Jam 3.45 The Jam 3.55 The Jam 4.05 The Jam 4.15 The Jam 4.25 The Jam 4.35 The Jam 4.45 The Jam 4.55 The Jam 5.05 The Jam 5.15 The Jam 5.25 The Jam 5.35 The Jam 5.45 The 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